Maine Farmer.

AGRICULTURE, MECHANIC ARTS, LITERATURE, NEWS, &c.

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Maine Farmer.

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S. L. BOARDMAN, Agricultural Editor.

Our Home, our Country and our Brother Man.

The Salmon Establishment at Bucksport.

The majority of our readers are aware that during the past season, an experiment on quite a scale has been in progress at Bucksport in the breeding of salmon. The necessity of having salmon spawn for the purpose of restocking our exhausted rivers and the impossibility of getting it elsewhere in sufficient quantity and at prices that we could afford to pay compelled our Commissioner of Fisheries to attempt the collection of it from salmon caught in the Penobscot river. The first attempt was made last year, the states of Massachusetts and Connecticut and one private party, Wm. Clift, of Connecticut, sharing with Maine in the enterprise. It was so far successful that the possibility of confining salmon from June till November in a small space in fresh water, without interfering with the normal developement of their generative functions, was established, and a considerable quantity of spawn, nearly 70,000 eggs, secured in unusually good order, and at less than half the cost of those bought in Canada. These eggs hatched out remarkably well, and Maine's share, about 22,000 were put into a branch of the Little Androscoggin river in Norway.

Encouraged by this success, the same parties, joined by the State of Rhode Island and the U. S. government, acting through their several Commissioners of Fisheries, raised a fund sufficient to carry on the collection of eggs on a larger scale this year, and placed the matter in charge of Mr. Charles G. Atkins, the same gentleman who, while commissioner of fisheries, had made the first attempt.

A pond near Bucksport Village was selected as the site of operations. A number of boats were transformed, by making holes in the ends and covering them with net work, as cages in which the almon could be towed alive from the rivers where they were caught to a convenient point whence they could be carted to the pond. Arrangements were made with a number of fishermen owning salmon-wires to deliver salmon alive at the landing in Bucksport, and during the months of June and July upwards of six hundred salmon were received and carted to the pond and turned in. A portion of these died from injuries received in transport, and perhaps some from other causes, but it is believed that upwards of five hundred survived the summer.

The talking of spawn began Oct. 25th. Arrangements had been made to catch the salmon in the brooks running into and from the pond, it being known that they generally seek running water in which to lay their eggs, and it being expected that the majority of those in the pond would of their own accord, leave it for the brooks whenever ready to spawn. These expectations were realized, and by far the larger portion of those that left the pond chose the outlet as their place of exit, and that also was what was desired of them. At frequent intervals the salmon in the brook were driven into a pen made of boards and slats, and thence they were dipped out and examined. All the females that were ripe,—and that was nearly all—were deprived of their eggs at once, or as early as convenient, and then placed in another pen by themselves. Another pen was devoted to those that were unripe, another to male fish that had been used, and so on. Salmon heavy with spawn continued to seek the stream till past the middle of November, and the total number of eggs taken was about 1,500,000. The mode of taking the eggs and fertilising them was what is known as the dry method, and was substantially as follows: Under a rough shed erected for shelter from the cold and storms, sits the operator on a low stool, and before him on another stool stands a common milk-pan. An assistant with a dipnet catches a gravid female from one of the pens and brings her to the operator who rests partially on one of his legs and brings her over the pan in such a way that when the eggs flow out they fall directly into the pan. More or less pressure is required, and some time is consumed, as the eggs flow in a single stream, but in the course of ten or fifteen minutes, sometimes much less, the eggs are all taken and the fish returned to the water, where she soon recovers. A male salmon is now taken and a small quantity of milt, usually all he has to give at the time, pressed into the pan with the eggs. An assistant now takes the pan and with a rotary motion sends the eggs and milt whirling around over its bottom till they are thoroughly intermingled. Fecundation is now complete, water is for the first time added, and after standing in the pan a short time the eggs are carried in pails to the hatching house. The hatching house is situated a few rods further down stream. It is a plain wooden structure, 70 feet long and 28 wide. Its floor is nearly covered with wooden troughs through which run constant streams of water led into the building from the brook. In the trough lie shallow trays with wooden sides and ends, and wire-cloth bottoms. On these the eggs are carefully poured, to lie here in the water, undisturbed, until they reach a stage of developement when it is safe to move them. They make a very beautiful appearance, of a pink or salmon color, and about the size of peas. At about thirteen to eighteen days old, according to temperature of the water, a change takes place in the fecund egg that enables a trained eye to distinguish it from one that is unfecund. It is already known that among the first million taken, 98 or 99 per cent. are fecund—a truly wonderful result. As the water is very cold it is not expected that all of the eggs will be ready for transportation before the last of January. Then those that are to be hatched in other places will be sent away. A large number will remain until hatched, which will be probably in April. These will be put into the Penobscot and St. Croix rivers, when one or two months old. The Androscoggin river is also to receive a share. In all, several hundred thousand eggs will be devoted to the waters of Maine.

Whether we consider the number of eggs obtained, the ratio of fertilization, or the cost of the eggs per thousand, the enterprise has turned out a decided success. Hitherto, the largest and most successful operations of the kind have been at the Canadian Government Establishment at New Castle, Ontario, and in his last report, January 1872, the manager of that establishment announced with evident pride, the fact that he had in process of incubation over a quarter of a million of fertilized eggs, about one-sixth the number now on hand at Bucksport. The same official in the same report informs his government that the price of salmon eggs was established at *forty dollars* (gold) *per thousand*; but the cost of the eggs obtained at Bucksport, including a large outlay for buildings and permanent apparatus is only between *four* and *five dollars* per thousand. At this price we can afford to use a quantity of salmon spawn adequate to the needs of our exhausted rivers,—and it is quite probable that in future the cost per thousand will be still farther reduced, as it is quite certain that in favorable seasons a greater number of eggs can be obtained.

There is another fact which deserves consideration. These salmon eggs are not so many subtracted from the litter that would have been laid by the salmon that escapes the wires and nets, and reached their breeding grounds on the headwaters of the Penobscot. They are rather so many rescued from destruction, while the natural breeding of the wild fish goes on as usual; for all of the salmon that yielded these eggs were destined for the market, had they not been bought for breeding purposes.

The enterprise will undoubtedly be continued another season, and probably for many seasons. It is quite within bounds to say that nothing has occurred since the restocking of our salmon rivers was first agitated that gives us so good reason to expect ultimate success. And we believe it but justice to say that a large share of the success already attained in this important undertaking, is due to the intelligent, patient and constant oversight of Mr. Charles G. Atkins who has had personal superintendence of the work, and who possesses peculiar qualifications for the position.

A Collector and his Possessions.

Being in Waterville one afternoon not long since, in company with a gentleman from New York interested in our history, our natural resources and our institutions —we accepted a very kind invitation from Charles E. Hamlin, the distinguished Professor of Natural Sciences in Colby University, to visit the buildings of the Institution, and examine the collections forming the the University Cabinet. We spent a most agreeable afternoon, and our visit to the place and the enjoyment consequent upon an examination of the rich collections it was our good fortune to examine, will ever form a most pleasant recollection.

And first, an hour or two was most agreeably passed at the residence of Prof. Hamlin, where he very kindly shew us his magnificient collection in conchology, undoubtedly the finest in the State and one of the best in the country. It was arranged in a cabinet of some forty drawers, and we think we are safe in estimating the collection at between two and three thousand specimens, nearly all arranged in accordance with the latest scientific classification. There were shells from every quarter of the globe, from Mexico, Central America, the East Indias, the Pacific Ocean, Australia and other parts of the world. The array of form and color was almost endless, and it was a charm to hear the learned Professor, give the peculiarities of each and speak of the particular rarity or beauty of certain specimens. A large number were obtained by himself, many rare ones were purchased, and others were obtained by exchanges. The collection was arranged in a substantial black walnut cabinet, and was evidently not intended for display but for quiet study and personal enjoyment. After a pretty thorough examination of the shells, we took a look at his collection of some two hundred Maine birds many of which are somewhat rare. They are all very neatly prepared and mounted, and it may interest our readers to know that this work was entirely performed by Mrs. Hamlin, who shares her husband's enthusiastic love of nature, and who is his assistant in all his studies and collecting; or as Prof. Hamlin facetiously expressed it, his "right hand man." The Professor has one of the finest scientific libraries in the country, one containing a large number of rare and costly works both foreign and American, many of which could not be duplicated at any price, and nearly all of them in elegant and substantial buildings.

The University Cabinet is one containing rich collections in conchology, mineralogy, natural history generally and also an interesting collection of Indian impliments of various kinds. Rare minerals from different parts of the world are found in its cases, and through the efforts of Prof. Hamlin the University possesses a perfect set of the famous State fossils found in Waterville. At the time of our visit the natural history collections were deposited in the somewhat cramped quarters of one of the old college buildings, but were soon to be removed to the new building to be appropriated to this department now nearly completed. This building is situated at the northern part of the *campas*, on a line with Memorial Hall —about forty feet in front of the dormatories— and is of the same material as that building. The lower floor is devoted to a laboratory and lecture room, a working room for the students in chemistry, storage room and other accommodations. The second and third floors are to be taken up with the collections in Natural History which are to be arranged in glass cases attached to the walls, and also running through the centre of the rooms. The interior of this building is finished in butternut and black walnut, and the whole structure will be first-class in every respect, and an ornament to the grounds. It is a building that has long been needed, as the collections in the old rooms are not displayed to advantage—many specimens in fact cannot be seen at all—and we are glad the department of Natural Science is to have a building so comely and so well arranged.

For twenty years Professor Hamlin has lectured at the little pine table in the narrow lecture room, and during this time his whole energies have been devoted to his favorite branches and to building up the collections in Natural History, forming the University Cabinet, so that now, in this particular, Colby is probably richer than any similar institution in New England. During term time he has ever been at his post, manifesting the same enthusiasm year after year, in instructing his classes; while his vacations have been given to collecting in different localities, pursuing original investigations in his favorite studies, and always with a view of adding something to his own or the University collections, and of becoming better fitted for his college duties. He has dredged for weeks at Eastport and Grand Manan—two of the richest fields on the American coast for the conchologist—the labor of days being rewarded by obtaining some rare specimen that might be prized in the cabinet and used for purposes of illustration before his classes. Two long vacations were given to a study of Mt. Katahdin, and his knowledge of the physical characteristics of this grand Maine mountain is probably better than that of any scientific scholar in the country. Recently his attention has been turned towards Moosehead Lake—our magnificent inland sea—and he has commenced a thorough scientific survey of its chief features, illustrated by collections in natural history from its waters and its shores, and this work is to be continued through successive vacations until completed. As instances of his industry and patient enthusiasm in his natural history studies, it may be mentioned that he has obtained in Waterville fifty species of land and fresh water shells, and one hundred and forty species of birds. In obtaining the former, he has searched ditches and gulches, pools and streams, and even the earth about the upturned roots of old and decaying trees. He is also in correspondence with the foremost men of science in the country, with whom he conducts a regular system of exchanges. It is a rare and pleasant sight to find a man who amid a life of twenty years as a college professor, has lost none of his youthful ardour in the pursuit of his chosen studies, but who has kept fully abreast with the wonderful discoveries of later years, who, in all his investigations has been steadily led from Nature up to Nature's God, and who has also preserved that modesty and simplicity of character, which everywhere marks the man of genius, and the true christian gentleman.

Farmers' Clubs.

From the reports of their meetings found in our local exchanges, we judge the Farmers' Clubs of our State are well started on the winters campaign. In Waldo there is unusual activity, and the County Farmers' Association is holding monthly meetings with the clubs in different sections of the county—the meetings being well attended and the discussion of the subjects engaged in. Such topics as sheep husbandry, orcharding, associated dairying &c., are being considered, and the prospect is that through the influence of these meetings and discussions, several cheese factories will be established, and the farmers generally will obtain a clearer view of their errors of management, and will make stronger efforts to start on a new track to success, than would have been the case had these meetings not been held. They begin to see they must do something to be saved, hence they are wisely considering what can be done where they are, rather than —as has been the case in too many instances heretofore—leaving the State and begining anew in some other place. And if the clubs throughout the State, do something towards turning the attention of our farmers to the avenues to success that lie upon about them, and urge them to adopt these means for improvement—what a grand work they will have accomplished! And while we urge these clubs to carry forward vigorously, during the winter, the work that cannot be so well done during the season of active farm operations, we wish —for the purpose of giving them hints and suggestions for the conduct of their meeting— to call their attention to the following programme of the Concord, Mass., Farmers' Club, for their winters' work, as published in a recent number of the *Massachusetts Ploughman*. The club is composed of thirty active members and holds meetings, weekly, at the houses of its members. It is one of the oldest associations of its kind in the State. The following are the subjects announced for discussion for the winter:—

Dec. 5.—Milk; how much does it cost to make a cow in Summer and Winter.
Dec. 12.—Farming to-day compared with twenty years ago.
Dec. 19.—Insects.
Dec. 26.—Position of the American Farmer.
Jan. 2.—Means for Improving the Soil, and the best method of Composting Manures.
Jan. 9.—Care of Milch Cows, and best method of Feeding.
Jan. 16.—Crops of 1872 compared with former years, and their money value.
Jan. 23.—Hay and its Substitutes; best method of Curing and Feeding.
Jan. 30.—Theory and Practice of Agriculture.
Feb. 6.—A Summer's experience in Gardening.
Feb. 13.—Soils; variety, and to what best adapted.
Feb. 20.—Advantages of a Country Home.
Feb. 27.—Asparagus.
Mar. 6.—Trees of Concord; indigenous and introduced.
Mar. 13.—Thunder Showers.
Mar. 20.—History of Agriculture.
Mar. 26.—Roots; best method of raising them, and their value for feed and market.
April 3.—Improvement in Houses.

Editorial Notes.

Mr. William D. Hayden of East Madison, has been elected a member of the Board of Agriculture from Somerset County, for a term of three years. He has formerly occupied the same position, and his familiarity with its duties will render him an efficient member.

The article in our present issue on the management of grass lands, is from the pen of a practical New Hampshire farmer, a member of the State Board of Agriculture, and was written in reply to our request for a more full statement of his method than was contained in our report of the Skowhegan Farmers' Convention. It will be read with thoughtful interest, and we hope ultimate profit, by every farmer.

We learn that True's Potato Planter Co., Benton, will have fifty of J. L. True's No. 2 new Potato Planters ready to deliver this week. They have already received quite a number of orders for them, and farmers who wish to be sure of getting one for next spring should order at once.

The second exhibition of the Massachusetts Poultry Association will take place at Music Hall, Boston, Jan. 14th to 17th prox. Chas. E. Tuttle, Secretary.

We did not mean to infer, when speaking of Bro. Maxham's Merinoes in our last issue, that they had won any prizes in an "informal" manner; but that at our County and State Fairs they had *uniformly* been awarded the highest honors.

Mr. A. T. Miller of Whitefield is informed that the apples left at our office are *not* the Winthrop Greening, and we are not sufficiently acquainted with the Limber Twig, to say if they are that variety. We think them the Fall Harvey, but may be mistaken.

Sagadahoc Agricultural Society.

Having published the card of the Executive Committee of the Sagadahoc Agricultural and Horticultural Society, in reference to the Firing of a Salute on the grounds during its last fair, we think it but justice to insert the explanation of Wildes P. Walker, Esq., the efficient President of the Society, which appears in this issue. Mr. Walker's statements are substantiated by the letters of A. J. Hagan, W. H. Haley and James Purinton, members of the Executive Committee, by the Secretary of the Society, Mr. Stephen Purinton, the Marshal, Mr. P. K. Milliken, Maj. Sanger, and twenty-seven members of the "Bowdoin Cadets," for which letters we have not room in our columns.

Communications.

For the Maine Farmer.

Grass Lands and Grass Culture.

The Farmers' Meeting at Skowhegan.

I received your letter yesterday, and take an early opportunity to reply. If my address, in the 1st and 2d volumes of our S. H. Board of Agriculture, has met your approval, or my remarks at the meeting of your Board of Agriculture at Skowhegan has awakened an interest in grass raising, I can only say I am more than paid for any effort I have ever made in that direction.

I shall always remember with pleasure my visit at your meeting, the courtesy with which I was treated, and the consideration I received at the hands of your entire Board, to whom I was almost a stranger. I found your Board made up of strong, practical men, who knew whereof they spoke, and ever ready to welcome any one to their meeting, though the only credentials he could bring were those proving that he was a practical farmer at home. And if there was a single unpleasant recollection connected with that meeting, it was this, that so many noble, earnest, and intelligent men as constituted your Board, should come together such an effort to hold a meeting for the benefit of the farming interest of the beautiful section where it was held, and that those meetings should not be attended or appreciated by the very men it was designed to benefit. But the time is coming, and not very distant either, when the agricultural public will appreciate the fact, that it is brains and intelligence which can make farming successful, and that when our hired laborers fear they shall not ask enough, and do too much; it is time to inquire if labor cannot be economized and systematized, and some system of farming be pursued, which will bring in greater rewards with less exertions. When labor gets as plenty and cheap as in our grandfather's times, I may perhaps be willing to farm somewhat as our grandfathers did, or at least, raise the crops they did, but under our present condition and circumstances I think there is a better way, and I have proved it, under the conditions I stated at your meeting.

Grass the Staple Crop.

I believe that grass is the natural crop of the soil, and that under the present condition of the farms of the county, they can raise it, at more profit, either for sale or systematized feeding, and with less detriment to their lands than any other crop they can raise. It is not profitable for the case to bring in hoed crops cannot be raised with profit, but whether the cultivation of grass is not more profitable, and especially when looking to the permanent fertility of the land.

I have received several letters from intelligent gentlemen of your State, who heard my remarks at Skowhegan, making very nearly the same inquiries your own does, in regard to my system in detail, in raising grass, and I will take this occasion to explain somewhat at length my manner of cultivation.

My Experience in Grass Culture.

In the fall of 1866 I sold a farm which I had owned and cultivated eight years, and for which the same year I received a premium of fifty dollars, as being the best cultivated farm in the county. From this farm I had annually sold fully two-thirds of all the hay I cut, and never purchased ten loads of barn-yard manure, though I very largely increased the yield of hay, and pursued upon it the same system I have upon the one I afterward purchased, and which I will now describe.

In the spring of 1867 I purchased in the town of Epping, N. H., a farm which with subsequent addition cost me $5 250. It was considerably run down, having been poorly taken care of for eight years, and during several of the last years all the hay sold, and not a furrow plowed, or a spoonful of manure applied. The field of nearly fifty acres, was a good one, comprising like my other one every variety of soil, and in neither little or natural mowing land. The high land was full of witch grass, bound out somewhat, and the low land bearing natural grasses, but all naturally very good land. In the summer of 1867 I cut scarcely enough hay to winter two oxen, three cows, twenty sheep, and a horse.

During these four years I have plowed up, and nicely laid down nearly the whole field,—raising no hoed crops of any account, buying no animal manure, and each year selling nearly all the hay. Though fighting against droughts in summer, preventing catches of grass seed, and bare winters killing out grass roots, last season I sold $1,200 worth of hay, and other stuff, as potatoes, raised in my pasture, fruit, wood, lumber, &c., for $165, without expending over $250 for out-door help, beside my own labor. There is upon this farm the largest barn in town, nearly 100 feet long, 40 feet wide, and high posted, and the present season it is not only full all around considerably above the beams, but the hay is moved away upon timbers over the beams, nearly the length of the barn, all new hay and from this one field.

Success of my Method.

I had advocated the raising of hay by the system I had practiced, and to satisfy the agriculturists of New Hampshire that my motive was not a selfish one, I invited some fifty of the most prominent ones to take dinner with me upon it, and judge for themselves by looking at the hay in the barns and the second crop in the fields, of the correctness of the theory I had advocated. That I was sustained, those of your people who have read the agricultural papers of my State, and read their reports of the visit will not doubt.

The grass crop of 1870 which I sold, paid for all the labor, and fertilizers I had ever expended for the permanent improvements of the farm, and grass crop, as most of the other crops raised had more than paid for their cultivation. That the value of the farm has been very much enhanced, the hay proves, and general appearance of the farm will testify, and knowing as I most assuredly do that I have made considerable money in improving the farm, I feel sure that it will be now an easy matter to keep it constantly growing better, by judicious farming, from its own means, either from its products sold when commanding good prices, and a portion of the results returned in fertilizers, or if low prices prevail, and stock high, feeding out its products, and returning the resulting manure upon the farm.

Treatment of Grass Lands.

I have always finished my haying early, and as soon as completed, have commenced plowing my low land, laying it in lands of width in proportion to its wetness, letting the middle furrows serve as ditches to carry away the water, and nicely leveling and seeding down to grass, sowing about twelve quarts timothy seed per acre then, and sometimes four quarts more of timothy and clover in early spring. For manure, I have applied to these lands ashes, ground bone, plaster, Peruvian guano, and superphosphate, and none of these fertilizers have ever failed to give me good grass, and each of them will work well on any variety of soil, though perhaps the plaster has not paid as well on clayey soils.

I have simply brushed in these manures, as deeply as the seed, as neither requires but a slight covering, though I much prefer that a fall of rain should follow the application of the manure. On low rich land, where grass will grow nicely if a sod is once formed, I have applied 100 bushels of leached ashes per acre, or 200 lbs. guano in connection with 300 lbs. of fine bone, or 600 lbs. of superphosphate, while upon higher and poorer land I have increased the application, and the third season top-dress with nicely rotted rich turf, piled up the year previous, and in three years more plow up and reseed again. Later in the season, and after the second crop had started somewhat, I have plowed up my higher ground, sowing but little nerdsgrass and red top, as my high land is full of witchgrass, which grows of itself, and early in spring sow clover seed, as all the clover seed I sow in the fall, gets killed out in winter. The amount of vegetable matter in the soil of witch grass land is very large, and when turned under, and left there to decay, (or the most of it, which does not sprout,) is quite a manuring of itself, and in its gradual decay keeps the land not only rich, but in a loose condition.

I have always made all the manure I could from my sink water, muck, and all the leaves and vegetable matter I could get for absorbents, and have applied it to the high land nearest my buildings, and farther from them have applied the same manure as upon my low lands, with much more plaster, which is especially valuable upon lands containing much vegetable matter, as the plaster arrests and fastens the valuable ammonia arising from its decomposition. I try to get over the high land also once in five years, as there is no more economy in letting the land get poor, than in going without your dinner to save a half dollar, because you will eat a dollar's worth for supper, or go hungry. This system has worked admirably for me, and has not been expensive, as my expenditures for labor will show, for this kind of farming does not require much labor except in haying time, and the month succeeding. I have always held my plow myself, and my team has got its living in my pasture, where I always have had good feed, by not overstocking it, for it *pays* in such cases to manage to have good feed. I have generally kept four large oxen during the summer, and with such a team, two or three resolute men can wonderfully improve a field during August, without a great expenditure, as a little calculation will show.

The Plan recommended for Maine Farmers.

I have proved in my own experience, that three hundred dollars, judiciously expended in August for labor and fertilizers, will improve my farm more than consuming twelve hundred dollars' worth of hay upon it, and apply the resulting manure in the old fashioned way, and the difference of nine hundred dollars has been double the profit would have been upon the stock consuming it, if fed out. Although now the prospect is that stock will be higher, and consequently in most localities in Maine it will pay to raise it, for in either case it will pay better than raising hoed crops, reckoning the expense of labor, and more especially when we take into account the serious deterioration sure to follow, on farms where hoed crops are raised, unless very large quantities of manure is applied.

I have taken more time and space in answering these questions than I intended, but cannot see where I could condense it much, and answer them fully. In closing I desire to say again I have in both instances, renovated farms that were naturally good land, and I recommend you to never attempt the cultivation of any other, for the simple reason that *it will not pay*. But your State is a noble one, and I know from my own observation that it embraces within its limits large sections of as good land as there is in the republic, strong, and beautifully rolling, capable of bearing heavy grass, with fields naturally adapted to the machine, while your valleys are excelled in fertility by none others within my knowledge. I cannot see why my system will not answer equally as well for you as for me. I believe if your people will adopt it, they will never have cause to regret it, and that in pursuing it they can make Maine take the proud position, of the great hay and stock raising State of the Union.

Epping, N. H. J. F. LAWRENCE.

For the Maine Farmer.

Waldo Co. Agricultural Association.

Met at Unity Village, at 10 A. M., Wednesday, Nov. 20th, President Jewett in the chair. Attendance small during the forenoon on account of the snow storm in progress.

Discussion on Sheep Husbandry.

The question of sheep husbandry was taken up, the discussion being opened by JOHN ROYAL of Unity, who thought sheep the best kind of stock to keep. Prefers grades to full bloods. Sheep are easily kept and very profitable. They should not be kept too warm, and he would have them run out of doors in all weather, and even in storms. His flock of sheep last winter were kept almost wholly on weeds, poor hay, &c., at very small cost.

LINCOLN HUSSEY of Brooks. Knows by experience that pasturing sheep will renovate worn out soil. We should select out best lambs and not let the butcher select the best from the flock. Sheep should have a chance to run out on the snow.

DANIEL JONES of Brooks, inquired: How shall we breed the best lambs?

MR. ROYAL would have the lambs dropped in April. They will be early enough for market. Feed grain to sheep when the lambs are dropped unless they are out to pasture.

The President thinks worn out fields may be best top-dressed and manured by covering them with sheep. Would allow any one to put 50 sheep on his fields free in the fall. Fifty is enough for a flock. Would feed his fields with stock in the fall.

GEO. E. BRACKETT of Belfast does not agree in the recommendation to feed fields late in the fall to any extent. Would not have the rowen all fed off in the fall, and the grass roots left bare to the colds of winter. Very rich fields will bear more feeding than poor fields.

COL. PETER MOULTON of Unity, spoke of his experience in farming in Aroostook. Has also had considerable experience in Waldo County. Give sheep enough hay or weeds to make a cud and one gill of corn per day is sufficient for each sheep. They will keep fat on it. We give our sheep too much to eat. It costs four times as much to keep a sheep on hay as on corn. One bushel of corn is sufficient to winter a sheep. Lambs should then come after the sheep have gone to grass.

COL. THOMPSON of Unity thinks sheep should have provender with hay. Would not feed mowing fields too late and close. Sheep will do much to renovate high grounds and uplands.

MR. ROYAL cut brakes and found his sheep ate them clean in the winter.

MR. JONES would feed fields with sheep late in the fall, but would prefer that the sheep fed in his neighbors' fields and pastures during the day, and sleep on his fields at night. Believes in early lambs, say in February. They pay best for meat or for breeding.

MR. MOULTON thinks it just as well to have lambs dropped in April as any time earlier.

MR. ROYAL. Lambs dropped in early winter cost too much.

MR. JEWETT would have his lambs come in May. Believes in raising sheep and cows, and thus we may keep up the fertility of our farms.

Resolutions were passed recommending the farmers of Waldo Co. to quadruple their flocks of sheep as one of the best means of improving their farming, and that the fields be fed by sheep as a means of manuring and renovation.

After-noon---Associated Dairying.

The meeting was opened with a paper on Associated Dairying, by the Secretary, J. W. Lang. The advantages of the system are uniformity of production, lessening of female labor, and better prices from the making of superior cheese or butter. From three to five hundred cows are necessary to furnish a cheese factory. He believes associated dairying is specially adapted to Waldo county. We have three factories in Maine, at Strong, Dixfield and Glenburn. Cheese from these factories sells at 14 and 15 cts. a pound. These receive the milk from 100 to 300 cows. The method of starting a factory is to get up a stock company making shares at $50 or $100. The cost will be from $1500 to $2500. The essay occupied about twenty minutes in reading and was mostly statistical.

DANIEL JONES coincided with the views of the speaker, and believes associated dairies are just what is needed in this county.

MR. HUSSEY thinks the condition of our soil's in Waldo county demands a change in our system of farming. We are selling off our hay and reducing our stock, which is running out our farms. By manufacturing our milk into cheese we shall add to the fertility of our soils We shall thus send our hay and grain to market in the form of cheese and retain the manures in our farms.

R. W. FILES of Jackson thinks we should use our crops on the farm and thus save the manure.

MR. ROYAL said that by associated dairies we may dispense with the great loss caused by middlemen.

MR. BRACKETT gave a brief account of the Northport cheese factory which is to go into operation next spring. They have a stock association at $50 per share. It will cost some $1,800.

The question was then laid over for discussion at the next meeting.

Discussion on Orcharding.

The next question taken up was "Orcharding," and an essay on the subject was read by M. J. Dow of Brooks. He thinks a new departure in orcharding is needed in Waldo county. New England is *par excellence* the apple country of the world, and as good apple orchards can be raised in Maine as in any State in the Union. What we need is a general shaking up on the subject in Waldo county. We need to renovate our old orchards and plant new ones. If we can't do better we may even plant out a few Western grown trees, and by giving them extra pains they may be successful. We should raise our own trees. As regards the care of trees: the soil should be well drained and made rich enough to produce any crop. Transplant at from three to four years of age. Would set trees in the spring. Referred to an orchardist who uses green cattle manure around his trees with the best effect, and heads off such insects as lice, &c., by washing in the spring with weak lye.

MR. LANG says we are paying out too much money for New York apple trees. What is the experience of our farmers in regard to them? Are they better or as good as native trees? He is opposed to sending away so much money for what we can get at home better.

MR. HUSSEY would have apple seeds planted in the nursery at least four inches apart. Set trees far apart in the orchard. He would depend upon thumb and finger pruning, and would never use a saw or axe

MR. ROYAL had tried New York and native trees side by side under the same circumstances and gives the preference to the Western trees.

MR. BRACKETT referred to an orchard in his town which has never received any animal manures but has been mulched with vegetable manures. It is a good orchard and is composed wholly of trees grown in the owner's own nursery.

MR. ROBERTS of Brooks, thinks a good deal depends upon what care is taken of the trees after they are set out. Has seen New York trees doing well, side by side with natives.

After some further desultory remarks, the meeting closed.

An invitation was received from, and it was voted to hold the next session with the Prospect and Stockton Farmers' Club at Prospect, on Saturday, December 21st. The following subjects were assigned for discussion: Associated Dairying, to be opened by J. W. Lang. Production of Grass, to be opened by Geo. E Brackett; Comparative Taxation, to be opened by W. B. Ferguson of Belmont.

With the usual complimentary votes the meeting adjourned. G. E. B.

For the Maine Farmer.

Litchfield Farmers' Club.

The fourteenth annual exhibition of the Litchfield Farmers' Club was held at the trotting park of T. H. Springer, on Litchfield Plains. The weather was cloudy and disagreeable, but notwithstanding this the concourse of people was very great, probably the largest assemblage of people ever witnessed in this town on any occasion. It was estimated that six thousand persons were on the grounds during the day.

The present location of the Fair is a very desirable one, the ground being very level and smooth, and containing a good half mile track for the trial of the speed of horses. All that is needed now to make it a first class fair ground is a permanent hall for the exhibition of the products of the farm and household (the present one being only temporary.) The show of neat stock was not quite as large as in former years, but we think what was lacking in quantity was made up in quality. The Jerseys were represented by animals shown by Wm. Varney, Wm. Snow, and Samuel Smith, the latter exhibiting a full blood Jersey heifer, which is hard to beat. The Durham cow entered by Melvin Tibbetts was a fine animal. A Hereford bull shown by Frank Harriman, was a fine specimen of that breed, as was also a bull calf, exhibited by E. A. Baker. The grade Jersey cows shown by Josiah Weymouth, James A. Cause, Samuel Smith and others, deserve praise.

The show of fruit was exceedingly fine, equal if not superior to former exhibitions. The vegetable department was well represented by a very large number of lots, all very nice.

We would not forget to mention the ladies, for they did nobly. In addition to the nice butter and cheese, was a large variety of their handiwork. Many fine specimens of fancy work deserve particular notice, but we have time to mention only one, which is quite a curiosity in its way: that of a very nice patchwork quilt, manufactured by Miss Ella A. Dennison, composed of eight thousand ninety-six pieces. The ladies' work would have showed to a better advantage, had the hall been larger. As it was, a great deal had to be crowded into a small space. It is sincerely hoped by the writer, that the ladies of Litchfield, if they don't get the right of suffrage, will get the right to a larger hall in which to exhibit their handiwork next year.

Litchfield. CHAS. A. METCALF.

For the Maine Farmer.

Notes and Queries.

Town Taxes.

If you have time or space in your valuable paper I should be very happy to have you answer these questions. They may seem unwise to others, but to me of the greatest importance. In some towns it is almost impossible to get a farmer to take an agricultural paper or book, or take interest in the fairs and societies, even to the small expense of a farmers' club. The excuse is "I can only get money to pay my taxes." Now why is this uneven valuation varying from 1 to 5 per cent.? Is it good policy for towns to have power to assess almost any amount (I know there is a limit to railroad stocks) and lend their credit, &c.? Take for instance a town the majority of whose voters live in a village. They will vote for that which will benefit that part and the farmers none. And then perhaps, they being mechanics and merchants will vote a large discount to encourage the taxes paid within six months, they having ready money. But take the farmers A. and B. having farms of equal value but making different branches a specialty. A. pays his tax, $32, but B. can't earn his surplus, so loses the 20 cent. discount and has to pay $40. Take my town and Hermon (a farming town) I never paid over 3 per cent. in war times, and since not over 1½, while mine ranges from 2 to 5. The richer the town the higher per cent. the farmer pays. What is the remedy?

Government Weather Reports.

Again, if I understand the National Agricultural Congress, it proposes to persuade or influence our government to do for the farmer what it does for the sailor or shipping interest and the capitalist. Now what are your views upon this matter, and will it accomplish anything for the farming community?

A Poultry Society.

I am glad to see your contributors agitate a State Poultry Association. Ask them if any agricultural association ever injured a community or any farmer. Our representative elect, (a lawyer) sent word to our Farmers' Club to discuss the policy of the State giving aid to the societies; as he desired the views of the farmers. This is a good plan which I hope every farmer will always encourage. Don't think it will add to your taxes what little the State will do for us. Let us close up the rum shops and lessen the county tax in that way.

Hampden. A. C.

How I Make Pork.

On the eleventh day of November I slaughtered two pigs, one-quarter Essex, which weighed when dressed, 621 lbs., including rough fat. One weighed 295 the other 321 lbs. Their ages was seven months and eleven days. Feed milk until three months old, then I commenced to feed meal wet with cold water to the consistency of dough. With their milk I commenced with one pint a piece to a feed, and kept increasing until they would eat two quarts apiece to a meal, and three meals a day. This has been my mode of feeding for the last eight or ten years. My pigs have weighed from 250 to 365 lbs. when seven to nine months old, always well and healthy. So much for raw meat. If any one (and I suppose there are many) can beat this on cooked food, including the labor of cooking, I would be glad to hear from them, and of their mode of feeding.

Lenox. ISRAEL BERRY.

For the Maine Farmer.

Wild Apples and Grapes in Wisconsin.

The wild apple trees look precisely like the cultivated sorts, only they grow slower and rarely make a tree of more than five or six inches through at the ground. The fruit is green in color and about the size of a chickens egg. When ripe it has a peculiarly oily appearance and feel, and a very strong but pleasant fruit odor. The plumbs are of the variety generally called horse plum in Eastern Maine. The earlier sorts are red, as I have always seen them there, but later sorts that get ripe about the time frosts come are purple, green, yellow &c. Many of these wild plums compare favorably in size with the cultivated sorts and are pretty good when fully ripe. These trees like the wild apple, make fine hardy stocks to graft, and lots of them are taken up and brought into the yards and worked with the better sorts. Of the fruit of the wild grape, I shall say nothing more than it is of good size and looks delicious, but the vines grow with great luxuriance and attain very large size. I have seen a monster oak look very much like a weeping elm from having allowed itself to be a trellis for one of these wild grapes, which might be four or five inches in diameter near the ground. Around the oak openings, these vines spread out over the tops of the scrub oaks which grow near together and it is a delightful sight to look up from below and see thick, dark green foliage and amber clusters of rich purple fruit.

G. W. P. JERRARD.

Appleton, Wisconsin.

For the Maine Farmer.

Apples in Minnesota.

Here in Minnesota we are "turning every stone" to find fruits suitable to our climate, and an apple like the Hailey, if sufficiently hardy would prove invaluable. A few years ago it was thought that apples could not be grown in Minnesota, but constant perseverance has brought out a number of varieties that seem to be sufficiently hardy. I fruited this year seventeen varieties of standard apples

Minneopolis, Minn. J. T. GRIMES.

For the Maine Farmer.

Agricultural Intelligence.

A City Pig.

Mr. Albert French, on State street, this city, killed recently, a pig one year and one month old, weighing 425 pounds.

A Thomaston Porker.

Mrs. Polly Hyler of Thomaston, nearly or quite eighty years old, bought a pig at the prison last winter, tending it herself through the season, which when eleven months old, dressed 552 pounds. What younger lady or even gentleman can give a better pig record?

Waldo Co. Farmers' Association.

The next meeting will be held with the Prospect and Stockton Farmers' Club, Dec. 21st, commencing at 9 o'clock A. M. Large delegations are expected from the live clubs of our sister county, Hancock—the Bucksport, and the Orland clubs especially. Programme.—Forenoon, "Grass Production." Afternoon, "Over Taxation of Farmers," by W. B. Ferguson; "Associated Dairying." Evening.—"Specialties as Mixed Farming." A cordial invitation is extended to both ladies and gentlemen and the public generally. L.

Short-Horn Herd Book.

I am now receiving pedigrees for Vol. 12, and wish to close up the reception of them at once in order to have out the book by the 1st of March, 1873. Those intending to record their pedigrees should lose no time in forwarding according to my circular sent out in June.

Buffalo, N. Y. L. F. ALLEN.

Sagadahoc Agr. and Hort. Society.

Explanation of "An Explanation."

When the explanation in respect to the firing the salute in honor of the guests of this Society at their late fair and exhibition, by a portion of the Executive Committee, first appeared, I regarded its source as too insignificant for a reply, and still should adhere to that impression had not its malignity been made so apparent by the extended circulatio given it in the Bath, Portland, Lewiston and Augusta journals. It was conceived in sin, brought forth in iniquity, with a zeal characteristic of its inventor, regardless of truth, and with borrowed brains as its author.

Mr. Isaiah Jordan, that explanation is as false as the head and heart that perpetrated it, and I submit it to "the people who patronized the Fair," whether your "own sense of personal honor" is not safer in your own keeping, with its attendant "grief and mortification," than by such an attempt to impose upon "the people," to whom "the future welfare of the Society demands that the f

Maine Farmer.

Augusta, Dec. 7, 1872.

TERMS OF THE MAINE FARMER.

$2.00 in advance, or $2.50 if not paid within Three Months of the date of the subscription.

☞ All payments made by subscribers will be credited on the yellow slips attached to their papers. The printed date in connection with the subscriber's name will show the time to which he has paid, and will constitute, in all cases a valid receipt for moneys remitted by him.

☞ A subscriber desiring to change the post office direction of his paper must communicate to us the name of the office to which it has been previously sent, otherwise we shall be unable to comply with his request.

Collectors' Notices

Mr. V. DARLING will visit Washington County in November.

Mr. C. S. AYER is now canvassing the county of KNOX.

Mr. J. S. SMALL is now canvassing Northern Penobscot and Aroostook Counties.

Mr. A. D. FOSTER of Lakeville, Cornwallis, is now engaged in canvassing and collecting in Nova Scotia, as agent for the MAINE FARMER.

☞ To Our Patrons.

With the commencement of a New Volume of the MAINE FARMER, we would urge upon those of our subscribers who are in arrears for the paper, the duty of prompt and immediate payment. The publishers are in great need of money to meet the large current expenses of publication, and those who are owing us will do us a great favor, without waiting to be called on by our agents, by mailing the amount due at once to this office.

Subscribers residing out of the State, who cannot be reached by us in person or by agents, are especially requested to heed and respond to our call for money.

We renew the liberal offer made to our subscribers last year, of which we hope all concerned will take advantage, viz:

All persons in arrears who will send us the amount now due, at the rate of $2 per year and two dollars in addition, shall receive credit for all past indebtedness, and for a year's subscription in advance. THIS OFFER TO STAND OPEN UNTIL THE 15th OF JANUARY, 1873. All payments made at this office, or by mail, or to our authorized agents previous to that date, will be credited in accordance with the terms above stated.

Gauge of Railroads.

There has been a long controversy among railroad men, both in this country and in Europe with regard to the respective merits of broad and narrow gauge railroads, but so far as this country is concerned, the question has been practically settled in favor of the latter.

The Grand Trunk Railway Company which controls and operates nearly fifteen hundred miles of road, situated partly in the States and partly in Canada, adopted the broad gauge after much scientific investigation and experiment, and has adhered to it for upwards of twenty years. But their conservatism has at length given way to more intelligent views and within the past three weeks the gauge of two hundred miles of their road from Sarnia to Buffalo, has been changed from five feet six inches to four feet eight inches and a half, which is the gauge of nearly all the roads in this country. The Erie road is the only important line that still adheres to the broad gauge principal. We understand that it is the intention of the Grand Trunk Company to change the gauge of their entire road as fast as rolling stock can be provided. This Company have also decided to supply their entire road with steel rails, and some eighty miles have been put down during the past year. The four feet eight and one half inch gauge is the result of accident and not based upon any scientific experiments. The first tramways that were laid down in England happened to have this width, and the figures were adopted in putting down the first lines of rail-way in England, and have been copied by Engineers in this country. It seems a pity that four feet or four feet and a half had not been taken as the narrow gauge standard, rather than the awkward figures which are now used.

Many practical railroad men believe that the gauge can be still further reduced with great advantage, and have adduced very convincing testimony in support of their position. One of the strongest arguments is the great saving in the cost of construction. A committee of railroad men appointed at a convention recently held in St. Louis, report that in their judgment, in rough and mountainous countries, where it is not necessary to run fast trains, the construction of a three-feet gauge road would last but little more than one-fifth of that of such roads as the Baltimore and Ohio or Pennsylvania Central, and that, over the broken, uneven country which most of our roads traverse, the cost of construction would be but about half what our present roads have cost. The same committee report that over a slightly undulating country, the cost of a first class narrow gauge road, with all the equipments for freight and passengers, would not cost more than three-fifths of what a broad gauge would cost of the same class.

Another important consideration in favor of the narrow gauge is the great reduction of dead-weight which would be made. A narrow gauge cotton car used in the English East India Colonies, weighing three thousand pounds, carries eleven thousand pounds of cotton, while a southern broad gauge cotton car carrying only sixteen thousand pounds of cotton, weighs eighteen thousand five hundred pounds.

On the Denver and Rio Grande road, (narrow gauge) a cattle car weighing eight thousand pounds will carry nine animals weighing twelve thousand pounds. A broad gauge car weighing eighteen thousand pounds will only carry fourteen animals weighing in round numbers ten tons—making a dead weight of four hundred pounds per animal more in the broad than in the narrow guage car. In a train of twenty-five cars, the dead weight would be about forty tons in favor of the narrow gauge, or a difference of more than five cars.

The gauge question is one which affects communities through which roads pass, equally with the owners of the road; for the saving in the first cost of the road, in the expense of operating, and in getting rid of transporting such enormous dead weight, would enable railroad companies to reduce their tariff of rates both on freight and passengers, at least one-third from present prices.

The committee discuss the question candidly, and support their statements by the introduction of a large amount of statistics bearing on the case. One thing is very apparent from this report, viz.: that narrow gauge roads can be profitably built through sections of country where there is neither means for building the broader gauge roads nor a prospect of a traffic to support them.

THE CREDIT MOBILIER. This campaign sensation is to be thoroughly ventilated at an early day in the present session of Congress. On Monday Speaker Blaine, who was one of the parties implicated, left the chair, to which he had called Mr. Cox of New York, and from the floor, requested that a committee be appointed, a majority of whom should be political opponents who should investigate the matter and have authority to summon witnesses.

☞ At a meeting of the stockholders of the Maine Central Railroad held at Waterville Tuesday, it was voted unanimously by them to sustain the action of the board of directors in cancelling all contracts with the Somerset Railroad in relation to leasing the same, in consequence of the noncompliance of the Somerset road as to the terms of the lease. No other business came before the meeting, and the stockholders adjourned without day.

☞ The ladies of the Free Baptist Society hold their Levee at Granite Hall on the 19th and 20th inst.

CITY GOSSIP. The Governor and Council commenced an executive session at the State House Tuesday, for the transaction of routine business.—The National Military Asylum lost about $10,000 worth of shoes by the Boston fire, which was partly covered by insurance.—Mr. G. A. Robertson has drawn a geographical and historical map 9 by 14 feet for the use of the grammar school, of which he is the popular principal.—About forty hands are at work in Stacy's shoe factory.—The *Journal* mentions a case of extreme poverty and suffering in the person of a woman and her three children, in a small house near the State House. Their wants have been relieved.—Speaker Blaine's family left for Washington Monday.—The Board of Trustees of the Maine Insane Hospital meet in annual session to-day (Thursday.)—One of the work horses at the Insane Hospital died from the effects of the distemper this week. His head was so much diseased that his eyes dropped out.—The Western Union Telegraph Office has been moved into the granite block opposite the Post Office, same entrance as the Standard Office.—Ira D. Sturgis, Esq., fell from the frame of the shoe factory in Pittston last week, badly bruising one of his legs, and severely spraining his knee. His injuries are likely to keep him confined to his house for some time.—Maj. John D. Myrick has generously donated the new Library over two hundred volumes, many of them valuable works.—J. M. Haynes has been elected a member of the Executive Committee in place of J. T. Woodward, resigned.—The committee to purchase new books consists of J. W. Bradbury, F. M. Drew, J. M. Haynes and H. S. Osgood.—Capt. Henry Sewall has resumed his position as turnkey in the Kennebec jail.—The Maine electors of President and Vice President met at the Senate Chamber and organized by the choice of S. E. Spring as chairman and Alden Jackson, Secretary. Wednesday the vote was cast for Grant and Wilson, and John H. Kimball, Esq., of Bath, was selected as messenger to take the vote to Washington.—We have had all sorts of weather during the week past. The ice and sleet has left us a good foundation for a winter road-bed, and the sleighs are moving quite briskly.

COUNTY ITEMS. The new factory of the Dunn Edge Tool Company at West Waterville, now in successful operation, enlarges the works so that they now produce annually 1200 dozen of grass-hooks, 4000 dozen of axes and 12,000 dozen of scythes. One hundred and twenty men are constantly employed at the works in West Waterville and North Fayette.—Wm. Moore, a former resident of Waterville, and brother of the late Wyman B. S. Moore died at Minneapolis on Sunday of last week. A telegram to his son-in-law, Dr. Pulsifer of Waterville, announced his death and the forwarding of his remains.—The *Reporter* says: Mr. E. H. Lapham, of Pittston, teams through our streets with some pretty large loads occasionally. In hauling pressed hay this week he takes along 20 bales, averaging about 400 lbs. to the bale. His oxen are not very large, but he always has a long string of them.—The *Reporter* says: The port of Gardiner looks pretty sick this week. The steamer Clarion, two scows and a raft of logs, comprises the shipping now in port. There is no indication that any vessel will winter here yet.—On Monday last, Mr. Henry Babb, who runs the gang at the mill of the Kennebec Land & Lumber Company in Pittston, wrenched his left ankle very badly, and will be laid up some time.—The city schools, Gardiner, closed on Thursday of last week, and the scholars are now enjoying their short vacation.—Mr. Geo. S. Woodward, of Gardiner, lost a fine horse on Monday night last, by the prevailing disease. He had been offered $350 for the animal and considered her worth $500. She had got nearly well as he thought, and he took her out on the snow, and she took cold and died.—The fall term of Colby University closed Tuesday, Nov. 26th. Who is to be President in place of Dr. Champlin, resigned, is not yet known. The prize for article at "Senior Exhibition" of last week, was awarded to Fred Fuller of East Corinth.—The Gardiner *Reporter* says that a young deer was caught last Tuesday making its way over the logs to Brown's Island. It probably has an owner as it is quite tame.—The Vassalboro' woolen mills have been doing a thrifty business this fall, clearing $76,000 the last six months. The owners contemplate building a cotton factory at the outlet.—Luther Whitman of Winthrop, is filling an order for 1000 grindstone frames for the English market. C. M. Bailey, Esq., gave each of his married employees at Winthrop and Readfield a turkey. It took 81 to go round.

MR. GREELEY'S FUNERAL. The remains of the late Hon. Horace Greeley were interred in Greenwood Cemetery, Wednesday. It is seldom that a private citizen is honored with so imposing a funeral. President Grant, Vice President Colfax, members of the House and Senate, Army and Navy officers and many other distinguished persons were present. The bearers were Mr. Chief Justice Chase, Attorney General William M. Evarts, Senator Lyman Trumbull, Senator Robert E. Fenton, Thurlow Weed, J. E. Williams, I. Chamberlain, Erastus Brooks, Rev. Dr. Edward Bright, Robert Bonner, Wm. Orton, R. M. Hoe, David W. Bruce, Peter C. Baker, Sinclair Tansey, John G. Lightbody, Dudley S. Gregory, Charles S. Storrs, A. J. Johnson and John R. Stuart. The route to Greenwood was appropriately decorated, and a vast concourse of people witnessed the procession as it moved slowly along. An immense throng had preceded the procession, so that the hearse could with difficulty be followed. Here the last sad rites were performed, and the remains of the great editor were consigned to their last resting place.

CITY AFFAIRS. The monthly meeting of the City Council was held last Saturday. Charles W. Stone was allowed the use of fifteen feet of Northern Avenue, to build a stone wall on the west side from the factory office to the lower boarding house.—The Committee on Highways were directed to settle with Miss Lizzie M. Robinson for injuries received from a defective side walk, in such manner as the interests of the city require.—The city Treasurer was authorized to borrow five thousand dollars to meet present current expenses.—The mayor was authorized to draw his warrant in favor of John L. Stevens for land taken for the extension of Chesnut street, amounting to $1,014.15. Roll of accounts No. 9, amounting to $3,360.41 was presented and ordered to be paid.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE. We publish this week the annual message of the President, which from its great length, occupies a large portion of our news columns, and excludes many other matters of interest. The message is a plain, common sense State paper, couched in simple, unaffected language, without any attempt at artificial display or elegance of diction. It abounds in interesting facts concerning our foreign and domestic relations, showing that our Chief Magistrate has made himself thoroughly acquainted with all our varied interests. We make no further comment, but leave it for our readers to judge for themselves, after having perused the document.

THE THOMAS CONCERT. Mr. Theodore Thomas, assisted by his Grand Orchestra will give one of his unrivaled concerts at Granite Hall on Saturday evening, Dec. 14. This Orchestra is selected from the best and most prominent musicians in this country and Europe. The character of Mr. Thomas' concerts is too well known to need or be benefitted by any commendation of ours. We have no doubt that Granite Hall will be packed, and persons who desire to attend are advised to secure seats early.

☞ See Gen. Boynton's advertisement in another column. It appears by the Report of the Secretary of the Interior that over 5000 soldiers' pensions have been increased during the past year.

DEATH OF HORACE GREELEY. The country was surprised and pained at the announcement of the death of Hon. Horace Greeley which took place at the residence of Dr. George C. Choate, near Chappaqua, New York, on Friday evening last at ten minutes before seven o'clock. We condense from the New York *Tribune* the following account of his sickness and death:

Mr. Greeley seemed in almost as good health as usual when on the day after the election he wrote the card announcing his resumption of editorial charge of the Tribune. His sleeplessness was known to have become greatly worse, but for years he had suffered more or less from the same difficulty, and as is now clear, sufficient allowance had not been made for the intense strain on him throughout the summer, especially during the last month of his wife's illness. But it soon became apparent that his strength was unequal to the hard task to which he set himself. He wrote only three or four careful article, no one of them being half a column in length. The most notable, perhaps, was that entitled "Conclusions," wherein he summed up his views of the canvass. In all he wrote less than three and a half columns after his return, contributing to only four issues of the paper.

At last, on Tuesday, the 12th instant, he abandoned the effort to visit the office regularly, and sent for the family physician of Mr. A. J. Johnson, the friend with whom he was a guest, and in whose house his wife had died. Every effort was made to induce sleep, but he grew steadily worse until it became evident that his case was critical. Dr. George C. S. Choate and others were called in consultation, and it was finally decided to take him to Dr. Choate's residence, two or three miles distant from Mr. Greeley's country home at Chappaqua. Here he received the uninterrmitting attention of Dr. Choate, and here Dr. Brown-Sequard and others were called in consultation.

The sleeplessness had developed inflammation of the brain, and under this the venerable patient sunk rapidly. At times he was delirious and at other times as clear headed as ever. He lost flesh and strength with surprising rapidity, and in a few days the possibility of his speedy death forced itself into unwilling recognition. It was not however until Thursday last that his associates and family brought themselves to admit it, and even then they clung to their faith in the vigor of his constitution. On Wednesday night he failed very rapidly. On Thursday morning and evening he seemed somewhat easier. During the night he slept very uneasily, muttering occasionally and frequently raising his right hand. Toward morning he was more quiet, and between eight and nine fell into nearly an unconscious condition, which continued with some intervals through the day. He made occasional exclamations, but many of them, in consequence of his extreme weakness and apparent inability to finish what he began, were unintelligible. About noon, however, he said quite distinctly and with some force "I know that my Redeemer liveth." During the day he recognized various people, his daughter and many friends, and members of his household at Chappaqua, Mr. John R. Stuart and Mr. Reid.

On the whole he suffered little and seemed to have no more than the ordinary restlessness which accompanies the last stage of disease. During the day his extremities were cold and there was no pulse at the wrist. The action of the heart was very intermittent and was constantly diminishing in force. He had not asked for water or been willing to drink it since his stay at Dr. Choate's, but during Friday he asked for it frequently.

Up to within half an hour of the end he manifested in various ways his consciousness of what was going on around him, and even answered in monosyllables and intelligently, questions addressed to him. About half past three he said very distinctly, "It is done," and beyond the briefest answers to questions, this was his last utterance.

His youngest daughter, Miss Gabrielle, was with him throughout Thursday evening and Friday. The elder daughter, Miss Ida, was in constant attendance, as she had been during the whole of his illness, and of Mrs. Greeley's before him. Other members of his Chappaqua household were present, with Mr. and Mrs. John R. Stuart, and a few other friends. Nothing that science or affection could suggest was wanting to ease the last hours.

The wintry night had fairly set in when the inevitable hour came. Without sleighs were running to and fro, bearing to Chappaqua, the nearest telegraph station, the latest bulletins, which thousands of anxious hearts in the great city near by, kept demanding. Within, the daughters and a few others stood near the dying man, who remained conscious and seemingly rational and free from pain, though now too weak to speak. In the adjoining room sat one or two more friends and the physician. At ten minutes before seven o'clock the watchers drew back in reverent stillness from the bedside. The great editor was no more.

The proximate cause of his death was inflamation of the brain, induced by extreme nervous prostration and sleeplessness. The death of his wife and his long and constant watch by her sick bed, followed by the excitement over the adverse result of the election, proved too severe a strain upon his mental and bodily health, and must be regarded as the remote causes which resulted in his death,

Mr. Greeley was born in Amherst, N. H., Feb. 3d, 1811 and at the time of his death lacked about two months of being sixty-two years old. He has been prominently before the country for more than a quarter of a century, as a politician and lecturer, but more especially as the founder and editor-in-chief of the New York Tribune.

During the past summer, he has been still more prominently before the public in being the candidate of a great party for the office of chief magistrate of the nation. His history is too well known to all our readers, to require any repetition of it at this time. His early struggles and disappointments and his final success are familiar to every one.

During the exciting political campaign which has just closed, much bitterness was engendered and he was heaped with obloquy, but those who most strenuously opposed him in his aspirations for the presidency, are now the first to come forward to do justice to his honesty and integrity of purpose and to his great ability. In his long career as a journalist, Mr. Greeley's course has not always been above criticism, and his adoption and defence of many of the isms and humbugs of the day, has often exposed him to the shafts of ridicule. But his honesty has never been questioned, and through all his life, he has been an uncompromising champion of liberty and equal rights. He has led a very busy life, and if, as the poet says, "We live in deeds, not years," few men have lived longer than Mr. Greely. In his death the whole nation mourns the loss of one of its distinguished men.

☞ Hon. J. W. Bradbury, President of the Directors of the Library Fraternity, publishes a card, stating that a sufficient number of life memberships have been obtained to insure success, and that the purchasing committee will proceed to Boston or New York in a few days, for the purpose of selecting the books. In the meantime donations of books will be in order, and will be gratefully acknowledged.

CONGRESSIONAL. The second session of the 42d Congress commenced on Monday.

The Senate met at noon, the Vice President being in the chair.

The Chaplain alluded to the death of Mr. Greeley as that of one whose pen had given direction to public thought and had been a benefaction to mankind.

Mr. Stevenson presented the credentials of Gen. Machine, Senator from Kentucky to succeed Garrett Davis, and he was sworn in. The Vice President presented the credentials of Mr. Morrill, re-elected from Vermont.

A number of bills were introduced, among them one by Mr. Sumner, to strike from the United States flags all records of battles fought with fellow citizens.

After the recess a message was received from the House announcing the adoption of a concurrent resolution in regard to the death of Horace Greeley.

Mr. Fenton moved its immediate consideration, and it was unanimously agreed to.

The House was called to order at noon by Speaker Blaine. The attendance of members was very large. The galleries were crowded with spectators. After prayer by the Chaplain the roll was called.

The following new members were sworn in: Joseph R. Hawley of Connecticut; Constantine C. Esty of Massachusetts; O. T. Dodds of Ohio; Erasmus W. Beck of Georgia.

Gen. Banks offered his resignation as Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, but the House by a vote of 75 to 59 refused to accept it.

Mr. Dawes offered resolutions of respect to the memory of Mr. Greeley, and Mr. Cox followed in a speech on them. The resolutions were unanimously adopted.

Speaker Blaine then called Mr. Cox to the chair and took the floor to offer a resolution for the appointment of a committee of five to investigate the charges against him (Blaine) in connection with the Credit Mobilier matter. Mr. Blaine said he had requested Mr. Cox to appoint a majority of Democrats on the committee, and made a few remarks challenging investigation. The resolution was adopted and the following committee appointed: Messrs. Poland, Banks, Beck, Niblack and McCrary.

The following is the resolution offered by Mr. Dawes, and adopted by the House to-day:

Resolved, by the Senate and House of Representatives. In view of the recent death of Horace Greeley, for whom, at the late election more than three millions of votes were cast for President, that a record be made on the Journals of Congress of the appreciation of the eminent services and personal purity and worth of the deceased, and of the sad impression created by his death following a keen family bereavement.

On Tuesday the Senate met and adjourned without transacting any business.

In the House, Mr. Hale introduced a bill to amend the tariff so as to admit ship-building materials free of duty. Referred.

Mr. Kellogg of Connecticut, introduced a bill repealing the stamp tax on bank checks and notes.

The bill was debated till the expiration of the morning hour.

A bill was introduced providing for drawbacks on all imported ship building material and ship stores; also for the payment of an amount equal to such duties when American material is used. Referred.

Wednesday the Senate was not in session.

In the House Mr. Hale introduced a bill to amend the tariff so as to admit ship-building materials free of duty. The House had a brief session, but little business being transacted, and adjourned at an early hour.

Items of Maine News.

Nearly all the stages coming into Bangor, Saturday, were on runners.

N. K. Sawyer, Esq., and wife have gone to Jacksonville, Fla., for the winter.

Auburn is earnestly considering the matter of a city park.

The Swedish colony in Maine now numbers 1300 inhabitants.

Charles A. Shaw, Esq., is about to remove from Biddeford to Boston, where he has purchased a residence.

The December term of the Supreme Court will commence next Tuesday. Judge Kent will preside.

Farmington is to have a fire company of fifty men to whom it is proposed to pay $300 per year.

The change in county officers will give Paris two new citizens, Mr. Wright, of Bethel, and Mr. Davis, of Bryant's Pond.

Two Richmond firms are the fortunate possessors of 950,000 bricks, which they are rapidly shipping to Boston.

The Anson Advocate says George B. Gray of that town, last Thursday slaughtered a hog 18 months old, which weighed 710 pounds.

The Penobscot Lumbering Association has rafted the present season 216,841,430 feet of logs—the largest season's work ever done.

The winter term of Anson Academy will begin the second of next December, under the charge of Mr. Augustine Simmons.

There will be a large amount of lumber put into the Androscoggin the present season.

Lewiston had a dry Thanksgiving, the watchful police seizing all the "tangle foot" laid in for the occasion.

Twenty-seven hundred and fifty sides of sole leather from the up-river tanneries went west on the Maine Central Saturday says the Whig.

Messrs Treat & Lang employ 125 hands in their cooperage establishment in Bath. They are extending their works.

The next session of the Oxford county Lodge of Good Templars will meet with Mt. Abraham Lodge, Locke's Mills, Wednesday, December 4th.

The house and stable of Lemuel Moore, in Ellsworth, was burned last Saturday. Loss $1,000; no insurance.

The Ne Plus Ultra Collar Co. has sold its property to T. L. Merrill, Esq., who has been the efficient agent for some time.

The Congregational Church at Castine was badly damaged by fire on Saturday, catching from the furnace. No insurance.

Mr. Frank, Knight, an aged citizen of Westbrook, was found dead in his barn Saturday, where he had gone to feed his cattle. Heart disease was the cause.

The Wiscasset Oracle says that Capt. Knight of that town, who recently took the small pox died of the disease Tuesday. There is no other case in town.

The woolen factories of Dexter "Dexter Mills" and "Abbott's Mills," employ about three hundred operatives, with a monthly pay-roll not far from $10,000.

Mr James Goss of Poland, raised the past season on two and one half acres of land, one hundred bushels of corn, costing him a fraction less than fifty cents per bushel.

The Whig says that the creditors of the late S. H. Dale and the firm of S. H. Dale & Co., are receiving a first dividend of 50 per cent. this week.

A. slater, named Wm. Brown, belonging in Portland, fell from a roof in Baldwin Place, Boston Wednesday afternoon, fracturing his skull. He died in a few minutes.

The brig Isola, of Castine, from Wilmington, N. C., with naval stores to Boston, put into New York port for harbor on the night of the 26th and went ashore on the point of Sandy Hook, where she now lies.

The Journal says it costs as much to transport a barrel of oysters from Portland to Lewiston as it does to bring the same from Virginia to Portland.

A correspondent at Mt. Vernon says that Mr. Charles C. Gilman, blacksmith of that town, on Wednesday the 27th while in the act of shoeing oxen had one bone of his left arm fractured. After securing the services of Dr. S. Burbank with the usual amount of splints and bandages, he, with his usual courage resumed work at his shop.

A New Gloucester farmer, anxious to turn an honest penny, got into trouble trying to enter Lewiston with a load of whiskey the day before Thanksgiving.

Messrs. Merrow & Millay have been prosecuting brick making at Bowdoinham with success the past season, and they and other parties are making arrangements for the business next season.

Three boys were skating on the pond at the mills in Ripley last Thursday evening, when one of them, George Palmer, broke through the ice and was drowned. Search was made for his body but it was not recovered until two hours afterwards.

Mr. Edward Goddard of Bethel, white stepping into the Post-office Wednesday, fell backward and expired immediately. He was a mill wright by trade, and was returning to his home from the western part of the county, when death suddenly claimed him as a victim. He was an estimable citizen.

T. J. Southard & Son have commenced a new vessel of between 800 and 900 tons measurement at Richmond. Thurlow & Toothaker of Richmond have taken the contract to build the vessel and to have it ready for sea in May next.

Mr. Alexander Robertson of Poland, the noted hen raiser, has kept the past year sixty-eight hens, and has sold from them eggs and poultry enough to amount to $214,50. Cost of keeping hens and expenses $88,50, leaving a net profit of $126.00 in one year.

A petition will be presented to the next Legislature by the citizens of Mount Desert Island for a charter for a railroad from Southwest Harbor via Somesville to connect with the Shore Line Railroad, at Ellsworth.

Hon. Stephen Coburn of Skowhegan, has taken D. C. Robinson as a partner in the practice of law, the firm being Coburn & Robinson, and Hon. Hiram Knowlton takes his son, W. L. Knowlton, as a partner in the profession.

Mr. George Manson of Kittery, was accidentally shot through the right ankle and foot, while walking through the street last Sunday evening, by a revolver in the hands of a careless boy. The wound is said to be very severe.

The cheese-factory at Paris is progressing. $900 are already subscribed, and about $800 more are promised. It may require $2500 to build and equip the factory. 400 cows will furnish the milk, and the factory can be run by three hands.

A correspondent of the Eastport Sentinel gives an account of two sisters, natives of a neighboring town, but residing in Boston last fall, when one of them having a presentiment that they were both to die soon, returned to their former home, bringing their burial robes. They have since both died. The one having the presentiment was well at the time she left Boston, but the other was in the first stages of consumption.

Wednesday afternoon a little boy about five years old, son of Coridon Ireland of Newport, strayed from home and could not be found. He was traced to the bridge in that town and on the bridge were marks where the little fellow had undoubtedly slid off and endeavored to save himself. A large force was searching the river Wednesday night for the body.

Capt. Wm. Kendall died on Wednesday at Fairfield, at the advanced age of of 89. He is said to have been the inventor of circular saws, of the Colt revolver, Kimball water wheel, steel chime bells and other improvements. He is the oldest Royal Arch Mason in the State. He has been a Mason in good standing almost seventy years.

President's Message.

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

In transmitting to you this my fourth annual message, it is with thankfulness to the Giver of all good that as a nation we have been blessed for the last year with peace at home and abroad, and a general prosperity vouchsafed to but few people. With the exception of the recent devastating fire, which swept from the earth with a breath as it were millions of accumulated wealth in the city of Boston, there has been no overshadowing calamity within the year to record. It is gratifying to note how like their fellow-citizens of the city of Chicago, under similar circumstances a year before, the citizens of Boston are rallying under their misfortune, and the prospects are that their energy and perseverance will overcome all obstacles and show the same prosperity soon, that they would, had no disaster befallen them. Otherwise we have been free from pestilence, wars and calamities which often overtake nations, and as far as human judgment comprehends the future, no cause seems to exist to threaten our present peace.

GENEVA ARBITRATION.

When Congress adjourned in June last a question had been raised by Great Britain and was then pending, which for a time seriously imperilled the settlement by friendly arbitration, of the grave difference between this government and that of Her Britannic Majesty, which by the treaty of Washington had been referred to the tribunal of arbitration which had met at Geneva in Switzerland. The arbitrators, however, disposed of the question which had jeopardized the whole treaty, and threatened to involve the two nations in most unhappy relations toward each other, in a manner entirely satisfactory to this government, and in accordance with the views of the policy which it had maintained.

The tribunal which had commenced in Geneva in December concluded its laborious session on the 14th day of September last, on which day having availed itself of the discretionary power given to it by the treaty to award the gross amount, it made its first decision whereby it awarded the sum of $15,500,000 in gold as the indemnity to be paid by Great Britain to the United States for the ratification of all the claims referred to its consideration. This decision happily disposes of a long standing difference between the two governments, and in connection with another award made by the German Emperor under a reference to him by the same treaty, leaves the two governments without a shadow upon the friendly relations which it is my sincere hope may forever remain equally unclouded.

The report of the agent of the United States appointed to attend the Geneva Tribunal, accompanied by the protocols of the proceedings of arbitrators, the arguments of the counsel of both governments, the award of the tribunal and the opinions given by the several arbitrators is transmitted herewith. I have caused to be communicated to the heads of the three friendly powers who complied with the joint request made to them under the treaty, the thanks of this government for the appointment of arbitrators made by them respectively, and also my thanks to the eminent personages named by them and my appreciation of the dignity, patience and great ability with which they discharged their arduous and high functions. Her Majesty's government has communicated to me its appreciation by her Majesty of the ability and indefatigable industry displayed by Mr. Adams, the arbitrator named on the part of this government during the protracted inquiries and discussions of the tribunal. I cordially unite with Her Majesty in this appreciation. It is due to the agent of the United States before the tribunal to record my high appreciation of the ability, unwearied patience and the prudence and discretion with which he has conducted the very responsible and delicate duties committed to him, as it is also due to the learned and eminent council who attended the tribunal on the part of this government, to express my sense of the talents and wisdom which they brought to bear in the attainment of the result so happily reached. It will be the province of Congress to provide for the distribution among those who may be entitled to it, of the respective shares of money to be paid; although the sum awarded is not payable until a year from the date of the award, it is deemed advisable that no time be lost in making a proper examination of the several cases in which indemnification may be due. I consequently recommend the creation of a board of commissioners for the purpose.

SAN JUAN AWARD.

By the 34th article of the treaty of Washington, the respective claims of the United States and Great Britain in their construction of the treaty of June 15th, 1846, defining the boundary line between their respective territories, were submitted to the arbitration and award of His Majesty, the Emperor of Germany, having been pleased to undertake the arbitration, has the earnest thanks of the government and of the people of the United States, for the labor, pains and care which he has devoted to the consideration of this long pending difference. I have caused an expression of my thanks to be communicated to His Majesty. Mr. Bancroft, the representative of this government at Berlin, conducted the case and prepared it on the part of the United States with the ability that his past services justified the public in expecting at his hands. A member of the cabinet at the date of the treaty which has given rise to the discussion between the two governments, as the minister to Great Britain when the construction now pronounced unfounded was first advanced, and the agent and representative of the government to present the case to recover award, he has been associated with the question in all its phases and in every stage has manifested a patient zeal and earnestness in the maintenance of the claim of the United States. He is entitled to much credit for the success which has attended the submission. After a patient investigation of the case and the statements of each party, His Majesty, on the 21st day of October last, signed his award in writing, decreeing that the claim of the government of the United States, that the boundary line between the territory of Her Britannic Majesty and that of the United States should be drawn through the Haro channel, is most in accordance with the true interpretation of the treaty concluded on the 15th of June 1846, between the agent of Her Brittannic Majesty and of the United States. Copies of the case presented in behalf of each government and of the reply of each and a translation of the award are transmitted herewith. This award confirms the United States in their claim to the important archipelago of islands lying between the continent and Vancouver's Island.

The joint occupation of San Juan has ceased. The Islands are now in the executive possession of the United States. It now becomes necessiary to complete the survey and the determination of that portion of the boundary line through the Haro channel, upon which the commissioners which determined the remaining portion of the line were unable to agree. I recommend the appointment of a commission to act jointly with one which may be named by Her Majesty for that purpose.

The experience of the difficulties attending the determination of our admitted line of boundary after the occupation of the territory and its settlement by those owing allegiance to the respective governments, points to the importance of establishing by national objects or other monuments an actual line between the territory acquired by us from Russia and the adjoining possessions of Her Britannic Majesty. The region is now so sparsely occupied that no conflicting interests of individuals or of jurisdictions are likely to interfere to the delay or embarrassment of the actual location of the line. It has ever since the ratification of the treaty of Great Britain been contested, and leaves us for the first time in the history of the United States as a nation, without a question of disputed boundary between our territories and the possessions of Great Britain on this continent.

It is my grateful duty to acknowledge the prompt and spontaneous action of Her Majesty's government to giving effect to the award. In anticipation of any request from this government, and before the reception in the United States of the award signed by the Emperor, Her Majesty had given instructions for the removal of Her troops which had been stationed there, and for the cessation of all exercise of claim of jurisdiction, so as to leave the United States in executive possession of the lately disputed territory. I am gratified to be able to announce that the orders for the removal of troops have been executed, and the military deferred until a population shall enter and occupy the territory. Some local contest of neighbors may again array the two governments in antagonistic relations; I therefore recommend the appointment of a commission to act jointly with one that may be appointed on the part of Great Britain, to determine the line between our territory of Alaska and the coterminous possessions of Great Britain.

TREATY OF WASHINGTON.

In my last annual message I recommended the legislation necessary on the part of the United States to bring into operation the articles of the treaty of Washington, of May 18, 1871, relating to the fisheries and to other matters touching the relations of the United States towards the British and its possessions, so become operative so soon as legislation should be had on the part of Great Britain and its possessions. That legislation on the part of Great Britain and its possessions had not then been had, and during the session of Congress a question was raised which for the time raised a doubt whether any action by Congress in the direction indicated would become important. This question has since been disposed of, and I have received notice that the Imperial Parliament and the legislatures of the provincial governments have passed laws to carry the provisions of the treaty on the matters referred to into operation. I therefore recommend an early adoption of the legislation in the same direction necessary on the part of this government.

BOUNDARY LINE.

The joint commission for determining the boundary line between the United States and the British Possessions between the Lake of the Woods and the Rocky Mountains, has organized and entered upon its work. It is desirable that the force be increased in order that the completion of the survey and the determining of the lines may be sooner attained. To this end I recommend that a sufficient appropriation be made.

CONGRESS AT ST. PETERSBURG.

Congress at its last session having made an appropriation to defray the expense of the commissioners on the part of the United States to the International Statistical Congress at St. Petersburg, the persons appointed in that character proceeded to their destination and attended the sessions of the Congress. Their reports shall in due season be laid before you. This Congress meets at intervals of about three years, and has held its session in several of the countries of Europe. I submit to your consideration the propriety of extending an invitation to the Congress to hold its next meeting in the United States. The Centennial celebration to be held in 1876 would afford an appropriate occasion for such a meeting.

VIENNA EXPOSITION.

Preparations are making for the international exposition to be held during the next year at Vienna, on a scale of very great magnitude. The tendency of these expositions is in the direction of the advancement of civilization, the elevation of industry and labor, and of the increase of human happiness as well as of greater intercourse and good will between nations. As this exposition is to be the first which will have been held in Eastern Europe, it is believed that American inventors and manufacturers will be ready to avail themselves of the opportunity for the presentation of their productions, if encouraged by proper aid and protection. At the last session of Congress, authority was given for the appointment of one or more agents to represent this government at the exposition. The authority thus given has been exercised, but in the absence of any appropriation there is danger that the important benefits which the exposition offers will, in a large degree, be lost to the citizens of the United States. I commend the subject strongly to your consideration, and recommend that an adequate appropriation be made for the purpose. To further aid American exhibitors at the Vienna exposition, I would recommend in addition that the Secretary of the Navy be authorized to fit up two vessels, to transport between our Atlantic cities and Trieste, or the most convenient port to Vienna, and back, their articles for exhibition.

OTHER FOREIGN RELATIONS.

With France, our earliest ally; Russia, the constant and steady friend of the United States; Germany, with whose government and people we have so many causes of friendship, and the other powers of Europe, our relations are maintained on most friendly terms. Since my last annual message the exchange has been made of the ratification of a treaty with the Austro-Hungarian empire, relating to naturalization, also of a treaty with the German Empire, respecting Consuls and trade marks; also of a treaty with Sweden and Norway relating to naturalization, all of which treaties have been duly proclaimed.

Since your last session, the President of the Mexican republic, distinguished by his high character and by his services to his country, has died. His temporary successor has now been elected with great unanimity by the people, a proof of confidence on their part in his patriotism and wisdom, which it is believed will be confirmed by the result of his administration. It is particularly desirable that nothing should be left undone by the government of either republic to strengthen their relations as neighbors and friends. It is much to be regretted that many lawless acts continue to disturb the quiet of the settlement on the border between our territory and that of Mexico, and that complaints of wrongs to American citizens in various parts of the country are made.

The revolutinary condition in which the neighboring republic has so long been involved has in some degree contributed to this disturbance. It is to be hoped that with a more settled rule of order through the republic, which may be expected from the present government, the acts of which just complaints is made, will cease. The proceeding of the commission under the convention of Mexico, of the fourth of July, 1868, on the subject of claims, have unfortunately been checked by an obstacle, for the removal of which measures have been taken by the two governments, which it is believed will prove successful. The commissioners appointed, pursuant to the joint resolution of congress of the seventh of May last, to inquire into depredations on the Texas frontier, have vigilantly made investigations in that quarter. Their report upon the subject will be communicated to you. Their researches were necessarily interrupted, partly on account of the limited appropriation made by Congress. Mexico, on the part of that government, has appointed a similar commission to investigate these outrages. It is not announced officially, but the press of that country states that the fullest investigation is desired, and the co-operation of all parties concerned is invited to secure that end. I therefore recommend that a special appropriation be made at the earliest day practicable, to enable those commissioners on the part of the United States to return to their labors without delay.

It is with regret that I have again to announce a continuance of the disturbed condition of the Island of Cuba. No advance toward the pacification of the discontented part of the population has been made, while the insurrection has gained no advantages and exhibits no more of the elements of power or of the prospects of ultimate success than were exhibited a year ago. Spain, on the other hand, has not succeeded in its repression, and the parties stand apparently in the same relative attitude which they have occupied for a long time past. This contest has lasted now for more than four years. Were it seen at a distance from our neighborhood we might be indifferent to its result, although hum

New York and Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; and the California, Oregon and Mexico Steamship Company receives $75,000 per annum for conveying a monthly mail between San Francisco, and Honolulu, Hawaiian Islands; making the total amount of mail steamship subsidies at present, $725,000 per annum. Our postal communications with all parts of the civilized world have been placed upon a most advantageous footing by the improved postal conventions and arrangements recently concluded with the leading commercial countries of Europe and America, and the gratifying statement is made that with the conclusion of a satisfactory convention with France, the details of which have been definitely agreed to by the head of the French postal department, subject to the approval of the Minister of Finance, little remains to be accomplished by treaty for some time to come with respect either to reduction of rates or improved facilities of postal intercourse. Your favorable consideration is respectfully invited to the recommendations made by the Postmaster General for an increase of services from monthly to semi-monthly trips on the mail steamer route to Brazil; for a subsidy to secure the establishment of an American line of mail steamers between San Francisco, New Zealand and Australia; for the establishment of a post office savings bank; and for the increase of the salaries of heads of bureaus.

I have heretofore recommended the abolition of the franking privilege, and see no reason now for changing my views on that subject. It not having been favorably regarded by Congress, however, I now suggest a modification of that privilege to prevent its large and costly abuses. I would recommend also the appointment of a committee or commission to take into consideration the best method, equitable to private corporations who have invested their time and capital in the establishment of telegraph lines in operation, and of connecting this service with the postal service of the nation. It is not probable that this subject could receive the proper consideration during the limits of a short session of Congress, but it may be initiated so that further action may be fair to the government and to private parties concerned. There are but three lines of ocean steamers, namely: The Pacific Mail Steamship Company between San Francisco, China and Japan, with provision made for semi-monthly service after Oct. 1, 1873; the United States and Brazil line (monthly;) and the California, New Zealand and Australian line (monthly,) plying between the United States and foreign ports, owned and operated under our flag. I earnestly recommend that such liberal contracts for carrying the mails be authorized with these lines as will insure their continuance. If the expediency of extending the aid of governments to lines of steamers which hitherto have not received it, should be deemed worthy of the consideration of Congress, the political and commercial objects makes it advisable to bestow such aid on a line under our flag between Panama and the Western South American ports. By this means much trade now diverted to other countries might be brought to us to the mutual advantage of the country and those living in that quarter of the continent of America. The report of the Secretary of the Treasury will show an alarming falling off in the carrying trade for the last ten or twelve years, and even for the past year. I do not believe that the public treasure can be better expended in the interest of the whole people, than in trying to recover this trade.

An expenditure of $5,000,000 per annum for the next five years, if it would restore to us our proportion of the carrying trade of the world, would be profitably expended. The price of labor in Europe has so much enhanced within the last few years, that the cost of building and operating ocean steamers in the United States is not so much greater than in Europe. I believe the time has arrived for Congress to take the subject into serious consideration.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE.

Detailed statements of the disbursements through the deparment of Justice will be furnished by the report of the Attorney General, and though these haqe been somewhat increased by the recent acts of Congress to enforce the rights of citizens of the United States to vote in the several States of the Union, and to enforce the provisions of the 14th amendment to the constitution of the United States and amendments thereto, I cannot question the necessity or the salutary effect of these enactments. Reckless and lawless men, I regret to say, have associated themselves together in some localities to deprive other citizens of the rights guaranteed them by the constitution of the United States, and to that end have committed deeds of blood and violence; and the prosecution and punishment of many of these persons have tended greatly to the repression of such disorder.

I do not doubt that a great majority of the people in all parts of the country favor the full enjoyment by all classes of persons of the rights to which they are entitled under the constitution and laws, and I invoke the aid and influence of all good people to prevent organizations whose objects are by unlawful means to interfere with these rights, and look with confidence to the time, not far distant, when the various advantages of good order and peace will induce an abandonment of all combination prohibited by the acts referred to, and when it will be unnecessary to carry on prosecutions or inflict punishments to protect citizens from the lawless doings of such combinations. Applications have been made to me to pardon persons convicted of a violation of said acts, upon the ground that clemency in such cases would tend to tranquilize the public mind, and to test the virtue of that policy, I am disposed as far as my sense of justice will permit, to give to the applications a favorable consideration. But any action thereon is not to be construed as indicating any change in my determination to enforce with vigor such acts as long as the conspiracies and combinations therein named disturb the peace of the country. It is much to be regretted, and is regretted by no one more than myself, that necessity has ever existed to execute the enforcement act. No one can desire more than I that the necessity of applying it may never again be demanded.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR.

The Secretary of the Interior reports satisfactory improvements and progress in each of the several bureaus under the control of the Interior Department. They are all in excellent condition. The work which in some of them for some years has been in arrears, has been brought down to a recent date, and in all the current business has been promptly dispatched.

THE INDIAN POLICY.

The policy which was adopted at the beginning of this administration with regard to the management of Indians, has been as successful as its most ardent friends anticipated within so short a time. It has reduced the expense of their management, decreased their forages upon the white settlements, tended to give the largest opportunity to the extension of the great rail ways through the public domain and the pushing of settlements in more remote districts of the country, and at the same time improved the condition of the Indians. The policy will be maintained without any change, excepting such as further experience may show to be necessary to render it more efficient. The subject of converting the so-called Indian territory South of Kansas into a home for the Indians and erecting therein a territorial form of government is one of great importance. As a complement to the existing Indian policy, the question of removal to the territory has within the past year been presented to many of the tribes resident upon other and less desirable portions of the public domain, and has generally been received by them with favor. As a preliminary step to the organization of such a territory, it will be necessary to confine the Indians now residing therein to farms of proper size, which should be secured to them in fee, the residue to be used for the settlement of other friendly Indians. Efforts will be made in the immediate future to induce the removal of as many peaceably disposed Indians only to the Indian territory as can be settled properly without disturbing the harmony of those already there. There is no other location now available where a people who are endeavoring to acquire knowledge of pastoral and agricultural pursuits can be as well accommodated as upon the unoccupied lands in the Indian territory. A territorial government should however protect the Indians from the inroads of the whites for a term of years, until they become sufficiently advanced in the arts and civilization to guard their own rights. From the disposal of lands held by them for the same period during the last fiscal year, there were disposed of out of the public lands, 11,864,975 acres, a quantity greater by 1,099,270 acres than was disposed of the previous year. Of the amount, 1,570,320 acres were sold for cash, 389,460 acres located with military warrants, 4,671,332 acres taken for homesteads, 693,613 acres located with college scrip, 3,554,887 acres granted to railroads, 465,347 acres granted to wagon roads, 714,255 acres given to states as swamp lands, 5,760 acres located by Indian scrip.

The cash received from all sources in the Land Office amounted to $3,218,100. During the same period 22,046,608 acres of the public lands were surveyed, which added to the quantity before surveyed, amounting to 583,364,780 acres, leaving 1,257,633,628 acres of the public lands still unsurveyed. The reports from the subordinates of the Land Office contain interesting information in regard to their respective districts. They uniformly mention the fruitfulness of the soil during the past season, and the increased yield of all kinds of produce; even in those States and Territories where mining is the principal business, agricultural products have exceeded the local demand, and liberal shipments have been made to distant points.

PATENTS DURING THE YEAR 1872.

There were issued from the Patent Office 23,626 patents, 233 extensions, and 556 certificates of registry of trade marks. During the same time 19,387 applications for patents, including reissues and designs, have been received, and 3100 caveats filed. The fees received during the same period amount to $67,095,486, and the total expenditures to $62,355,390, making the net receipts over the expenditures $7,740,096. Since 1863,, 200,000 applications having been filed, and about 13,300 patents issued. The office is being conducted under the same laws and general organization as were adopted at the original inauguration, when only from 100 to 200 applications were made per annum. The commissioner shows that the office has outgrown the original plan, and that a new organization has become necessary.

This subject was presented to Congress in a special communication in February last with my approval and the approval of the Secretary of the Interior, and the suggestions contained in said communication were embraced in the bill that was reported to the House by the Committee on Patents at the last season. The subject of the reorganization of the patent office as contemplated by the bill referred to is one of such importance to the industrial interests of the country, that I commend it to the attention of Congress. The commissioner also treats the subject of the separation of the patent office from the Department of the Interior. This subject is also embraced in the bill heretofore referred to, the commissioners complaining of the want of room for the model gallery, for the working force, and necessary files of the office. It is impossible to transact the business of the office properly without more room in which to arrange files and drawings which must be consulted hourly in the transaction of business. The whole of the patent office building, will soon be needed, if it is not already, for the accommodation of the business of the patent office.

PENSIONS.

The amount paid for pensions in the last fiscal year was $30,199,340, an amount larger by $8,708,434 than was paid during the preceding year. Of this amount $2,313,409 were paid under the act of Congress of February 1871, to survivors of the war of 1812. The annual increase of pensions by the legislation of Congress has more than kept pace with the national yearly losses from the rolls. The act of Congress, June 18, 1872, has added an estimated amount of $750,000 per annum to the rolls without increasing the pensioners. We cannot therefore look for any substantial decrease in the expenditures of the department for some time to come, or so long as Congress continues to so change the rates of pensions. The whole number of soldiers enlisted in the war of the rebellion was 2,688,523. The total number of claims for invalid pensions is 176,000, being but six per cent. of the whole number of enlisted men. The total number of claims on hand at the beginning of the year was 91,689. The number received during the year was 26,574, the number disposed of was 178, making a net game of over 12,604. The number of claims now on file is 79,085. On the 30th of June, 1872, there were on the rolls the names of 154,000 invalid military pensioners, 113,518 widows, orphans and dependent relatives, making an aggregate of 268,923 army pensioners. At the same time there was on the rolls the names of 1,499 navy pensioners, 1730 widows, orphans and dependent relatives, making the whole number of naval pensioners 3,179.

There has been received since the passage of the act to provide institutions for the survivors of the war of 1812, 36,551 applications prior to June 30, 1872. Of these there were allowed during the last fiscal year 20,126 claims, 4,845 were rejected during the year, leaving 11,580 claims pending at the date of act. The number of pensions of all classes granted during the last fiscal year was 33,838. During that period there dropped from the rolls for various causes 9,104 names, leaving a grand total of 232,229 pensioners on the rolls on the 30th of June, 1872. It is thought that the claims for pensions on account of the war of 1812 will all be disposed of the first of May, 1873. It is estimated that $30,480,000 will be required for the pension service during the next fiscal year.

THE CENSUS.

The ninth census is about completed. Its early completion is a subject of congratulation in as much as the use to be made of the statistics therein contained depends very greatly on the promptitude of publication. The Secretary of the Interior recommends that a census be taken in 1875, which recommendation should receive the early attention of Congress. The interval at present established between the Federal census is so long that the information obtained at the decimal periods as to the material condition, wants, and resources of the nation, is of litt'e practical value after the expiration of the first half of that period. It would probably obviate the constitutional provision regarding the decimal census, if a census taken in 1875 should be divested of all political character, and no reapportionment of congressional representation be made up under such a census. Coming as it would in the last year of the first century of our national existence, it would furnish a noble monument of the progress of the United States during that century.

EDUCATION.

The rapidly increasing interest in education is a most encouraging feature for the current history of the country, and it is no doubt true that this is in a great measure due to the efforts of the bureau of Education. That office is continually receiving evidences which abundantly prove its efficiency, from the various institutions of learning and education of all kinds throughout the country. The report of the commissioner contains a vast amount of educational details of great interest. The bill now pending before Congress, providing for the appropriation of the net proceeds of the sales of public lands for educational purposes, to aid the States in the general education of the rising generation, is a measure of such great importance to our real progress, and is so unanimously approved by the leading friends of education, that I commend it to the favorable attention of Congress.

THE TERRITORIES.

Affairs in the territories are generally satisfactory. The energy and business capacity of the pioneers who are settling up the vast domain not yet incorporated into States, are keeping pace in internal improvements and civil government with the older communities. In but one of them, Utah, is the condition of affairs unsatisfactory. Except so far as the quiet of society may be disturbed by real or imaginary dangers of Indian hostilities, it has seemed to be the policy of the legislature of Utah to evade all responsibilities to the government of the United States, and even to hold a position in hostility to it. I recommend a careful revision of the present laws of the Territory by Congress, and the enactment of such a law as the one proposed in Congress at its last session, for instance, or something similar to it, as will secure the equality of all citizens before the law, and the ultimate extinguishment of polygamy. Since the establishment of a Territorial government for the District of Columbia, the improvement of the condition of the city of Washington and its surroundings, and the increased prosperity of the citizens, is observable to the most casual visitor. The nation being a large owner of property in the city, should bear with the citizens of the district its just share of the expense of those improvements. I recommend, therefore, an appropriation to reimburse the citizens for the work done by them along and in front of public grounds, during the past year, and liberal appropriations in order that the improvement and embellishment of the public buildings and grounds may keep pace with the improvements made by the Territorial authorities.

AGRICULTURE.

The report of the commissioner of agriculture gives a very full and interesting account of the several divisions of that department, the horticult ural, agricultural and statistical, entomological and chemical, and the benefits conferred by each upon the agricultural interests of the country. The whole report is a complete history in detail of the workings of the department in all its branches, showing the manner in which the farmer, merchant, and miner is informed, and the extent to which he is aided in his pursuits. The commissioner makes one recommendation, that measures be taken by Congress to protect and induce the planting of forests, and suggests that no part of the public lands should be disposed of without the condition that one-tenth of it be reserved in timber where it exists, and where it does not exist inducements should be offered for planting it.

CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION.

In accordance with the terms of the act of Congress approved March 3d, 1871, providing for the celebration of the 100th anniversary of American Indipendence, a commission has been organized, consisting of two members from each of the States and Territories. This commission has been making satisfactory progress in the organization and the initiatory steps necessary for carrying out the provisions of the act, and for executing also the provisions of the act of June, 1871, creating a centennial board of finance. A preliminary report of their progress has been received from the President of the Commission, and is herewith transmitted. It will be the duty of the commission at your coming session to transmit a full report of the progress made, and to lay before you the details relating to the exhibition of American and Foreign arts, products, and manufactures, which by the terms offered is to be held under the auspices of the Government of the United States in the city of Philadelphia, in the year 1876.

This celebration will be looked forward to by American citizens with great interest, as marking a century of greater progress and prosperity than is recorded in the history of any other nation, and proving a further good purpose in bringing together on our soil people of all the commercial nations of the earth, in a manner calculated to secure international good feeling.

CIVIL SERVICE REFORM.

An earnest desire has been felt to correct the abuses which have grown up in the civil service of the country through the defective method of making appointments to office.—Heretofore federal offices have been regarded too much as the reward of political service. Under the authority of Congress, rules have been established to regulate the tenure of office and the mode of appointments. It could not be expected that any system of rules can be entirely effective and proven a perfect remedy for the existing evils, until they have been thoroughly tested by actual practice and amended according to the requirements of the service. During my term of service it shall be my best endeavor to so apply the rules as to secure the greatest possible reform in the civil service of the government; but it will require the direct action of Congress to render the enforcement of the system binding upon my successors, and I hope that the experience of the past year, together with appropriate legislation by Congress may reach a satisfactory solution of this question and secure to the public service for all time a practical method of obtaining faithful and efficient officers and employees.

(Signed.) U. S. Grant.

Executive Mansion, Dec. 2d, 1872.

The Markets.

Cattle Markets.

AT WATERTOWN, MEDFORD AND BRIGHTON.

WEDNESDAY, Dec. 4.

At market for the current week—Cattle 1735; Sheep and Lambs 5,613; Swine 30; number of Western Cattle 900. Northern Cattle and Milch Cows 595. Eastern Cattle 1188.

Prices of Beef Cattle, per 100 lbs. live weight. Extra quality $9 50@10 50; first quality $7 00@9 00; second quality $5 50@6 50; third quality $3 50@5 00.

Brighton Hides—9½c per lb. Brighton Tallow 5¼ 6½c per lb.

Country Hides—9c per lb. Country Tallow 5@6c per lb.

Calf Skins—18@20c per lb. Sheep Skins $1 00@1 25; Lamb Skins $1 00@1 25.

Cattle—The supply was a few head in excess of last week. Much of the stock was small and poor in flesh. Farmers in the country, leave winterings are disposing of a good portion of th ir stock. We consider this the hardest market dealers have seen this season on ordinary grades. Many droves were driving their Cattle to Brighton unsold. For good likely Cattle prices as last quoted, and easily disposed of.

Sheep—6643 head in market from the North, with no improvement in prices. We think dealers were disposing of them at last week's prices easier than they did the last week. Several hundred were left over unsold last week, but being well fed looked well. Extra Ohio sold 32 Sheep, averaged 90 lbs. at $5 per head. One lot that averaged 82 lbs at 8½c per lb. J. C. Brown sold 194 Lambs, gross weight 11,000 lbs at 6c per lb

Poultry—Live Poultry is a scarce article at market, not in consequence of a ready sell, for the city is at present heavily stocked. We quote Choice Chickens and Turkeys 16@c per lb.; ordinary Fowl 15½c per lb. poor lots 13c per lb.

Boston Market.

BOSTON, December 4.

Flour and Grain—The demand for Flour is steady and market quite firm. We quote:

Western superfine at $5 00@6 00; common extras at $6 75@7 25; Milwaukee and Minnesota extras at $7 00@7 75; white wheat Ohio Indiana and Michigan at $8 00@9 50; Illinois at $8 00@10 00; and St. Louis at $9 00@12 per obl., including choice family brands. Southern Flour is quiet at $7 00@12 00 per barrel for common extras and choice family. Corn is more declined at 71½@c for Western yellow, and 69@71c per bush for Western mixed. New Corn ranges from 67@69c per bush. Oats are firmer and in demand at 43@45c per bush. Rye 93c@1 00 per bush. Shorts, Fine Feed and Middlings, $26@27 per ton.

Provisions—Pork firm and has been selling at $12@13 00 for prime; $16 50@17 for mess; and $18@20 per bbl for clear. Beef ranges from $11 50@14 for mess and extra mess, and $15 50@17 00 per bbl for family. Lard steady at 9½@10c for city and Western; and packed hams 13@14c per lb for Boston; Butter sells at 20@36c per lb; and Cheese from 12@14c per lb for common and prime.

Produce—White Beans are not so firm, and extreme prices are difficult to realize. We quote extra pea at $3 75 for choice; good medium at $3 50@3 60, and $2 87½ for best; yellow eyes and red kidneys at $3 25@3 50 per bush. Potatoes are in steady demand and have been selling at 80@95c per bus. Eggs range from 34@36c per doz. Onions are selling at $2@3 25 per bbl; Apples at $2@3 25 as to quality. Poultry has been in moderate request, and the supply on the market is mostly poor quality and many spoiled. The sales have ranged from 10@20c per lb, and very choice from 22@25c per lb.

Hay—There is a firm feeling for good Hay, with sales at $28@28 per ton.

New York Market.

NEW YORK, December 4.

Cotton.—Sales 3,697 bales—middling uplands $19½.

Flour—Sales 11,850 bbls—State $5 90@7 80; Round Hoop Ohio, $7 00@9 25; Western, $5 90@8 65; Southern $7 10@12 00.

Wheat—Sales, 120,000 bushels—No. 2 spring 1 49@1 55; new 2 do; Winter Red and Amber Western, $1 62½@1 68.

Corn—Sales 142,000 bushels—steamer, 63; sail, 64.

Oats—Sales 75,000 bush.—Western 52@54; New 53@55.

Pork—12 75@16 00; Prime 15 00.

Sugar—Porto Rico, 9¼@10; Muscovado, 9¼@10.

Gold and Stock Market.

NEW YORK, December 4.

Money in sharp demand and firm at 7@16 per day, closing at 7 per cent. gold a 1-32.

Gold closed at 111@111¼.

Government securities closed at the following quotations:

United States Sixes (coupons) 1881, 117½; 5-20s, 1862, 113; 1864, 113; 1865, 113½; 1865 (new) 113½; 1867, 116½; 1868, 115½; 10-40's (coupon), 110½; New 5's, 109½

Augusta City Market.

THURSDAY, December 5.

Apples—Choice No. 1, Baldwin and Greenings are in good supply at $2 00@2 25; No. 2, $1 75 per barrel. Cooking, 30c per bu.

Butter—June and September make, in tubs, 30c; good quality late in make, 25@2-c.

Beans.—Pea and Yellow eyes $2.75@3.00.

Cranberries.—Good quality from native vines, $3.00 per bushel.

Cheese—Choice Livermore 16@18c; country made, 12@15c.

Flour—Superfine to common extra, $8 50@9 00; good $9 00@10 00; choice Western $9 50@10 50; St. Louis favorite brands $13 00@13 50.

Grain—Corn, 90c; Barley 80; new oats 44@45 cents; old oats, 60@62c; Rye $1 00.

Hay—The large amount of hay in this vicinity being bought for shipment, keeps the price of loose up to about $16@18, at which it is in fair supply.

Hides and Skins—Hides 9c; calf skins, nominal, Lamb skins, 75@$1 00.

Lime—$1 35 per cask.

Meal—Corn 93c per bush; rye, $1,10 per bu.

Produce.—Potatoes are in good demand and command 60@70c; eggs somewhat scarce at 33@35c; domestic lard 14c.

Seeds.—Nominal, and we withdraw our quotations.

Shorts—$2 00 per 100 pounds—less in large quantities.

Provisions.—Beef by the side, 8@10c; round hog, 7c Sc; clear salt pork, $16 00@18 00 per bbl.; fowl, 15@17c; mutton, 8@9c per lb; choice turkeys 16@18; spring lamb by the carcass, 12@14c per lb.; Boston cured hams 16@18c; Chickens are poor in quality this fall compared with some years previous, and are quoted at 15c; 20c being paid for choice lots.

Wood.—Hard wood $7.50@8.00.

NOTE.—The prices of all farm products keep up to a high and, it seems to us, a paying point. Poultry is somewhat scarce just now, and the prices of last week are well sustained. Choice apples are just now in good demand, but with the coming good sleighing will no doubt be brought in in good supply. But little hard wood, and but little loose have been in the market the past week.

Portland Market.

WEDNESDAY, Dec. 4.

Apples—plenty; Eating are selling at $2 50@2 75, and Cooking at $1 00 per bbl, and good winter, $3 00. Dried apples are dull at 9@11c for Western and 10@13c for Eastern cored and sliced.

Beans—are firm with a good demand. We quote hand-picked pea beans at $3 12@3 25; yellow eyes at $2 75@3 12.

Butter—Prime Vermont and New York is selling at 32@35 cents for tubs. Store is selling from 14@16c.

Cheese—firm:—New factory is selling at 16 to 17.—New York Dairy is worth 14@15.

Fish—Are in good demand, with better supply. We quote Large shore, $3 00@3 50; large bank, $3 25@3 50; small, $3 25@3 75; pollock, $2 2 @3 75; hake, $1 50@2 00 per quint; herring, $3 00@4 50 per barrel; scaled, per box, 30@35; mackerel, per bbl; No. 3 to No. 1, $7 to 14 00; shore No. 1 and 2, $11 to $18.

Flour—Quiet, but family brands are firm. We quote Superfine, $6 00@6 50; Spring X and XX, $7 25@8 25; Michigan Winter X and XX, $9 0-@10 00; Illinois X and XX $7 00@8 00; St. Louis X and XX, $8 75@11 00.

Grain—We quote mixed corn at 74@75c, and yellow at 75@76c, with a large demand. Oats are dull, at 50@55c, line feed at $23@25 per ton, and shorts at $28@30.

Hay—Loose, $18@20 per ton for prime new and old. Pressed is selling at from $18 to $20. Baled straw is selling at $18@19 per ton for prime.

Lard—Dull and quiet. Prime Western, per tierce, 9½@10c per lb; per keg 10c.

Lime—The market is firm at $1 40 pr cask for Rockland. Cement, $2 35@2 40.

Plaster—Soft per ton, $3 25; hard, $2 75@3; Ground in bbls, $8 00@9 00; calcined in bbls $2 75@3 00.

Provisions—In good demand. We quote beef side at 9 a 13c; veal 10@12; mutton 10@13c; Chickens in lots, 22@25c; Turkeys, 18@20c; Eggs, 35@36c; Potatoes 75@80 per bush; Onions, $2 75@3 25 per bush.

Provisions—are very quiet. We quote as follows: Mess Beef, Chicago, $12 00@13 00; Extra Mess, 12 50@14 00; Plate, $15 50; Extra Plate, $16 18@17 00; Pork backs, $19 00@20 50; clear, 19 00; mess, 17 00; Hams, 16@17c.

Salt—Unchanged. We quote Turks Island per hogshead $2 00@2 75; Liverpool, duty paid, $2 50@2 87½; Syracuse, none; Ground Butter, 25c per box.

Bangor Produce Market.

WEDNESDAY, Dec. 4.

Beans—Good clean Yellow Eyes are worth $2 75@2 85 per bush. Pea beans scarce at $3@3 25 per bush.

Butter—Common is brought in in good supply and is worth 20@25c. Lump 28@30.

Eggs—Are scarce in the market and selling at 31@33 cents per dozen.

Hay—The best qualities of new loose sell at $15 to $17 00 per ton. Pressed, $18@20

Grain—New Oats are selling at 40@50 cents per bush. Corn, 74@76c. Rye is worth $1 00 to 1 10 per bush.

Potatoes—The market is active and they are selling at 70@75c per bush, for shipping.

Provisions—Round hogs, 7, 7½@8; fresh beef, by the quarter, is worth 8 to 12@13c per lb.

Wool, 4-c.—The best quality of wool at 40@65 cts per lb, and wool skins $1 50@2 00, and veal skins 20c; hides are worth from 7½ to 8c per lb.

The following is the Board of Directors of the European & North American Railway Company: Messrs. George K. Jewett, Noah Woods, James W. Emery, Arad Thompson, Charles P. Stetson, M. S. Drummond, S. F. Hersey, and William Flowers, from the Maine Company, and Messrs. Alex. Jardine, Thomas R. Jones, James R. Ruel, Robert Robinson, and E. B. Burpee, from the New Brunswick Company.

Foreign News.

Great Britain.

At a Thanksgiving dinner given by Cyrus W. Field, Premier Gladstone responded at considerable length to the toast "Great Britain and the United States." After reference to the past history of both countries, he said: "All occasions of difference and controversy between the two countries had been in its nature temporary and capable of settlement by intelligent good sense and friendly temper, and the time of that settlement had now arrived when we can speak of it as a thing happily accomplished. The sentiment between the two countries tending toward fraternal union which heretofore has been liable to opposite and contending currents, can move with a full and equal flow, with nothing to interrupt it or fix its duration."

France.

A crisis has been impending in France during the past week. The Assembly by a small majority voted a want of confidence in the ministry when the ministers at once tendered their resignation. President Thiers had determined to resign his office and there was intense excitement in all the principal cities. On Monday the two councils had a long conference, when Mr. Thiers finally agreed to withhold his resignation if the ministers would withdraw theirs, to which the latter consented. It is hoped that the crisis is passed, but affairs are regarded as very precarious and an outbreak is not improbable at any time. Gen. Ducrot is accused of preparing his troops to act hostile to the Government, as he has been summoned to Versailles.

Germany.

In the Lower House of the Diet after a brilliant speech by Herr Falk, in which the determination of the Government to wage war with the influence of Rome was announced, a motion introduced by Herr Mallenekrodt against the exclusion of members of ecclesiastical orders as teachers from the public schools was rejected, the vote standing 242 to 83.

In accordance with ex-Gov. Coburn's wish, the Somerset County Commissioners have contracted with Charles H. Allen and Cyrus F. Taylor, stone cutters of Skowhegan, for the building of the basement of the new Court House, which is to be erected in Skowhegan.

Special Notices.

What hear we now from East,
Confounding man, befriending beast,
What is it cures our many pains,
And limbers up severest strains,
That knocks Rheumatism out of year,
Bids gout good-by without a tear?
Why! Centaur Liniment;
Causes the cripple to walk, the lame to leap,
Hearts to thank, instead of eyes to weep,—
Centaur Liniment.
What renders reptiles' tooth and sting of bees,
Harmless as the bite of fleas,
Excepting Centaur Liniment?
Assuages the pangs of a broken breast,
Flows the lacteal fluid—gives nights of rest,
But Centaur Liniment;
And when chilblains sting or hot steam scalds,
What is it soothes, for what can we call,
But Centaur Liniment?
When the car crushed old Tilden's arm,
'Twas saved from amputation by this charm—
The Centaur Liniment
And when Barnum's lion—Uncle Ben—
Broke his leg in that dismal den,
He roared for Centaur Liniment.
Now as the poor horse, lame and sore,
With crippled knee limps to our door,
And begs for Centaur Liniment;
And the docile sheep on a thousand hills,
Die by the million—the screw-worm kills,
All saved by Centaur Liniment;)
We hear it shouted from West to East,
By speaking man and neighing beast,
"Pass on the Centaur Liniment!"

This remarkable article is for sale by all Druggists, in every village, parish and hamlet in America We warrant it in every case.

J. B. ROSE & CO., 53 Broadway, N. Y.

Children Cry for Pitcher's Castoria—A substitute for Castor Oil. It assimulates the food, cures Wind Colic, and cures natural sleep. It does not contain morphine, is pleasant to take, never gripes and never fails. The best Physic known. 6m51

A Valuable Medical Treatise.

The edition for 1873 of the sterling medical annual known as Hostetter's Almanac is now ready, and may be obtained, free of cost, of druggists and general country dealers in all parts of the United States and British America, and indeed in every civilized portion of the Western Hemisphere. This Almanac has been issued regularly at the commencement of every year for about one-fifth of a century. It combines with the soundest practical advice for the prevention and cure of disease many singular and amusing if not entirely accurate. The issue of Hostetter's Almanac for 1873 will probably be the largest edition of a medical work ever published in any country. The proprietors, Messrs. Hostetter & Smith, Pittsburg, Pa., on receipt of a two cent stamp, will forward a copy by mail to any person who cannot procure one in his neighborhood.

What Unspeakable Relief is afforded to the burning and throbbing flesh by a single application of that unequaled balm for human suffering, MEXICAN MUSTANG LINIMENT. The tormenting and sleep-destroying pains of the rheumatism, gout and neuralgia are completely banished by its use; stiffness of the joints and painful swellings, quickly yield to its emollient influence; it heals bruises, cuts, scalds, &c., with astonishing rapidity. For strains, spring hait, scratches, saddle, collar and harness galls, as well as the more serious external maladies of the horse, it is a swift and thorough remedy

Loss of Appetite, Heartburn, Palpitation of the Heart, Dizziness, Sleeplessness, Constipation, Wind, Mental and physical Debility, and Melancholy, are only a few symptoms of the diseases of digestive organs. To thoroughly master these symptoms, WHITE'S SPECIALTY FOR DYSPEPSIA is *the only prompt, efficient and safe remedy.* H. G. WHITE, Proprie or 107 Washington St., Boston. Price, $1 per bottle. 13t44

ASSIST NATURE IN HER EFFORTS to shake off a cough or cold, or she may revenge herself by giving up the contest. Remember that with *Hale's Honey of Horehound and Tar*, Crittenton's, 7, 6th Avenue. Sold by all Druggists.

Pike's toothache Drops cure in one minute.

THE Panacea for a disordered stomach, sea-sickness, colic, dyspepsia, loss of sleep, vertigo, lassitude, lowness of spirits, and as an appetizer, there is nothing equal to Aiwood's QUININE TONIC BITTERS.

ADAMSON'S BALSAM cures Asthma, Coughs, Colds, Lung Complaints. 35 cents per bottle. 41t*

Married.

In this city, 25th inst., by Rev. Dr. Palfrey of Belfast, Charles C. Peck of Boston, to Hannah S. Patterson, daughter of Joseph W. Patterson of this city.

In this city, 29th ult., by Rev. G. F. Penney, Atwood M. Newell of Unity, to Marion McLaughlin of China.

In Cambridge, Mass., on Thanksgiving Day, by Rev. Alexander McKenzie, E. M. Mansur, Esq., Editor of the Musical Monitor, of this city, to Myra Ella Nutter of Corinna.

In this city 29th ult., by Rev. C. F. Penney, Wm. M. Martin to Mrs. Nancy Walker, both of Augusta.

In Round Pond, Bristol, 30th ult., by Rev. S. M. Fowler, Capt. Frank W. Gorham to Sophia A. Hastings, both of Bristol; 1st inst., by same, Parker M. Irvine to Belinda Brown, both of Bristol.

In China, 1st inst, by A. P. Weeks, Esq., Alfred S. Dennis of Palermo, to Sarah E. Giddings of China.

In Skowhegan, 3d inst., by Rev. I. S. Jones, Albert W. Pattee of Lewiston, to Lucy J. Clark, formerly of Concord.

In Winthrop, 27th ult., by Rev. Mr. Boardman, Samuel F. Nichols of Leeds, to Mrs. C. Staples of Winthrop.

In Amherst, N. H., 26th ult., at the residence of the bride's father, by Rev. John Peacock, Samuel B. Webster of Fairfield, Me., to Mrs. Lucy J. Austin of Amherst.

In Gardiner, 1st inst., by Rev. W. W. Nutting, Charles H. Douglass of Gardiner, to Ella E. Dolloff of Mt. Vernon.

In Mt. Vernon, 1st inst., by D. H. Thing, Esq., John H. Smith and Ella I. Virgin, of Mt. Vernon

In Waldoboro', 26th inst., by Reuben Orff, John F. Burns of Waldoboro', to Flora A. Law of Union.

Died.

In this city, Dec. 1st, Martha, wife of Robert Fisher, aged 83 years and 3 months.

In this city 30th ult., Samuel H. Parsons, aged 64 years.

At St. Catherine's Hall, 29th ult., Susan Olivia, only child of Caroline E. and the late Rev. Samuel J. Evans of Danvers, Mass., aged 2 years, 2 months

In Wilmington, Kansas, 24th ult., Samuel H., only child of Henry and Matilda Burns, formerly of Augusta, aged 15 years.

In West Bath, 30th ult., Dolly, wife of Deacon Joel Williams, aged 72 years, 11 months.

In Bellevue, Me., 1st inst., Lovie A., wife of Morris S. Elliot, and daughter of C. C. Humphreys of Brunswick, aged 23 years.

In Belfast, 23d ult., Capt. James E. Burgess, aged 52 years.

In Winterport, 23d ult., James B. Ckick, aged 77 years.

DO AGENTS want absolutely the best selling books? Send for circulars of VENT'S UNABRIDGED LIGHT FAMILY BIBLE.—Over 1100 pages 10 by 12 in. 200 pages Bible Pictures, &c. Arabesque $6 25 Gilt Edge, 1 clasp, $8 2 clasps, $11 00 "BELDEN: THE WHITE CHIEF," for Winter Evenings. 30th 1000 ready. "The American Farmer's Horse Book." The Standard. 40th 1000 ready. Epizootic Treatment. Address C. F. VENT, N. Y. & Cincinnati, VENT & GOODRICH, Chicago. 2t*1

EAGLE PRUNING TOOLS!

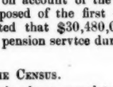
Something new and useful!

Highly Recommended by Nursery Men,

Makes a clean, smooth cut with ease. Simple, neat and durable. Price: No. 1, $4.00; No. 2, $3.00; Liberal discount to the trade, and Agents. Sells at sight.

FRED ATWOOD,
1tf Agent Maine and Provinces.

For Sale and Exchange.



I have eight Thorough Bred Yorkshire Pigs, six boars and two sows, five and a half months old. One pair I wish to exchange for Thorough-Bred Yorkshires of another family, the balance I want to sell. The above Pigs are from stock purchased in England expressly for me by Capt. E. P. Stinson, and imported Sept. 4th, 1871, by ship William M. Reed.

WORRALL REED.
Woolwich, Nov. 30, 1872. 3t*1

Many Soldiers! SUFFERING from army wounds disease or injury are drawing no pension or get less than lawfully entitled to. Write me the facts (send 2 stamps,) and receive by mail an application to execute to ask for a PENSION or INCREASE of PENSION. *Many can succeed.* HENRY BOYNTON,
1tf Augusta, Maine.

Fish Guano.

FIRST quality. For Sale cheap. Or will exchange for a good quality of pressed hay.

GEO. M. WONSON,
8t*1 East Gloucester, Mass.

CONSUMPTION CAN BE CURED.

SCHENCK'S PULMONIC SYRUP,
SCHENCK'S SEAWEED TONIC,
SCHENCK'S MANDRAKE PILLS,

Are the only medicines that will cure Pulmonary Consumption.

Sometimes medicines that will stop a cough will often occasion the death of the patient. It locks up the liver, stops the circulation of the blood, hemorrhage follows, and, in fact, clogging the action of the very organs that caused the cough.

Liver complaint and dyspepsia are the causes of two-thirds of the cases of consumption. Many are now complaining with dull pain in the side, the bowels sometimes costive and sometimes too loose, tongue coated, pain in the shoulder-blade, feeling sometimes very restless, and at other times drowsy; the food that is taken lies heavily on the stomach, accompanied with acidity and belching of wind. These symptoms usually originate from a disordered condition of the stomach or a torpid liver. Persons so affected, if they take one or two heavy colds, and if the cough in these cases be suddenly stopped, the lungs, liver and stomach clog, and remain torpid and inactive, and before the patient is aware of his situation, the lungs are a mass of sores, and ulcerated, and death is the inevitable result.

Schenck's Pulmonic Syrup is an expectorant which does not contain any opium, nor anything calculated to close a cough suddenly.

Schenck's Seaweed Tonic dissolves the food, mixes with the gastric juice of the stomach, digests easily, nourishes the system, and creates a healthy circulation of the blood. When the bowels are costive, skin sallow, and the patient is of a bilious habit, Schenck's Mandrake Pills are required.

Those medicines are prepared by Dr. J. H. SCHENCK & SON, Northeast corner of Sixth and Arch Streets, Philadelphia, Penn., and for sale by Geo. C. Goodwin & Co., 38 Hanover St., Boston, and John F. Henry, 8 College place, New York, Wholesale Agents.

For sale by Druggists generally. 1t39

GEO. WOODS & CO'S ORGANS

Their Wonderful

Combination Solo Stops

are capable of the most beautiful

**

Poetry.

A MOUNTAIN PASTORAL.

A couple at a cottage door,
Under the maple trees;
A mountain landscape stretched before,
Behind, beside: and nothing more
The passing traveller sees.

And is there more? The man and maid
Who caught your idle glance
Love's pretty hide-and-seek had played
Before they stood there in the shade,
Reading their own romance.

And he is young, and fair, and strong;
And she is young and wise,
All he can *see* to fresh hearts belong
Around their humble doorstone throng;
What more had Paradise?

Green are their waiting fields of toil,
With will-flowers blossoming sweet,
The living wealth no thief can spoil,
The boundless treasures of the soil,
Lie poured out at their feet.

Their neighbors? Not far off are they.
Beond the bright home hill—
White Face, and Passeconaway,
And old Chocorua, rising gray,
Dreamy, remote, and still.

The future opens fair and wide
Within the young man's eyes;
The mountains bless the sweet girl bride;
Life is a dream land glorified,
What more was Paradise?

Our Story Teller.

GRANDPAPA'S STORY.

A Thanksgiving Episode.

They had just risen from dinner in the old house at Eastwood. Dinah and Sallie were carrying out the remnants of the feast. With regretful eyes the children watched its disappearance. They had tried all the traditionary rules, had "stood up," jumped three jumps," "walked four times around the table," and positively not another mouthful could they swallow. And yet there was something sad in letting those *bonnes bouches*—those delightful halves, and quarters, and triangles of mince, and apple and pumpkin—disappear and be lost forever. The Thanksgiving Dinner for that year had become a part of the past: and I can tell you Grandmamma Allen's pie-crust was not a thing of every day.

From the great turkey stuffed with oysters, which insugerated the meal, to the tartelets of ruby cranberry, which brought it to a close, everything had that dainty, savory perfection of flavor which appertained to those fast-vanishing days of wide-mouthed fire-places, heaped with crackling logs, and "bake-ovens" whose depths entombed whole regiments of loaves and pasties, and returned them in the fullness of time, brown, delicate, and perfect—a fragrant resurrection. Alas! the aroma of those old-fashioned viands is almost a traditionary thing to these days of "modern improvements." Here and there it lingers in the far recesses of New England, and as Grandma Allen's it would linger always. No range disfigured her kitchen. A "waterback" was a thing unknown. The simple fireplace wore its ancient livery of cranes, pot-hooks and roasting-jacks; and over all, King Hickory, jolliest of monarchs, presided royally. Under his sway what unimaginable cates came to perfection! What flavorous roasts! what tempting baked beans! what toothsome hoe-cakes! what Indian puddings! I forbear. That was indeed the Golden Age of cookery.

Four generations were represented in the circle that now drew around the cheerful blaze in the "keeping-room"—from grandpapa, with his silver head, to Baby May, fast asleep in the arms of her fair young mother, his eldest grandchild. There were the five sons and daughters, with their respective wives and husbands, and their twenty-four children, to say nothing of Baby May and her proud young father, or little Neil on grandpa's knee—the orphan child of that youngest son whose loss was the one heavy shadow on this happy home. But to-night no shadow was visible. The flickering firelight fell only upon faces at their brightest, whether in the bloom of childhood or the comely serenity of middle life; on bright eyes and lips, on kindly smiles and looks. All shone with the cheerful humor of the anniversary. The children brimful of fun and turkey; the parents renewing their own childhood for an evening. And there, in the shadow of the curtains, whither Harry and Edith had betaken themselves, a little drama was going on—a fantasia, born of the season—which, if a guess might be hazarded, would ripen, amidst other anniversaries, into the earnest purpose of a lifetime.

"Dranpa, tell us a tory," demanded one of the little ones as night drew on.

"Good for you, Tot!" exclaimed her brother. "Oh yes, grandpapa! grandpa tells such nice stories!" chorused the others; while little Nell, putting her soft hand to the wrinkled cheek, joined in with the "Please" which she so often had found irresistible.

Now this "Story" of grandpa's was one of the features of the Eastwood Thanksgiving. It used to be "Cinderella" and "Jack the Giant-killer" formerly, when the little people were still less; and nowadays it was a stirring tale to please the boys, or some German legend adapted to the occasion. Last year it was the adventures of a drummer-boy and his dog at Antietam. And now, as grandpapa settled Nell in a more comfortable position on his lap and gave a preparatory "Hem!" the whole party, young and old, clustered a little nearer, and prepared to be attentive.

There was a sly twinkle in grandpa's eyes as he began:

"This time, children, I am going to tell you a love story."

"Dear me!" said the aunties to each other; while Hal in the window, possessing himself of pretty Edith's hand, gave it a pressure which brought the bright blush to her fair young cheeks.

"Yes a love story. Once upon a time—say a hundred years ago, or thereabouts—there was a young man whose name was Tom, and he lived in New York. He was rather a lonely young man, for he had no home and had lodgings which were not very nice; but he minded it less because he had never known what a home was; and besides he was very busy all the time."

"What was he busy at?" shouted Jack, who was famous for asking questions.

"He was a clerk in a great wholesale warehouse."

"What did they sell?"

"Now, Jack, you musn't keep interrupting," cried the other children.

"They sold machinery, Jack, and farmers' tools—plows and harrows and such like—and all sorts of invention and patents: what are known now-a-days as Yankee notions."

"Why that's just like Clarke & Ambler," cried Jack; but somebody hushed him up. Grandpa only laughed. Clarke & Ambler were the successors of the house in which all his money had been made.

"As I said before, he was very busy; for though business was on a smaller scale then than now, this was one of the largest houses in that line, and there was a great deal to do; and by working hard he had laid up some money, and, what was better, earned the good will and confidence of his employers. There was some talk of his becoming a junior partner in a year or two; and altogether he felt that the world was going smoothly with him.

"He hadn't many relations, this young man. His parents were dead, and he had no aunts nor uncles. There was a first cousin of his father's living in New England; but he had never seen him or any of his family. But just at this time his two daughters came to town to make a visit to a friend."

"What were their names, grandpapa?" asked little Nell, in her soft voice.

"Well, pet, we'll name one of them Edith and the other Ellen. They always called each other 'Dittie' and 'Nelly.' Edith was the prettiest. She had long light hair and blue eyes and a fair skin, and altogether was just about the sort of girl young fellows picture themselves falling in love with some day. And, I assure you, the young fellow I'm telling you about did so the very first time he saw her."

"And was Nelly pretty too?" asked the Nelly on grandpapa's knee.

"Well," continued grandpa, in a considering tone, "not exactly. She had brown hair and eyes, and a trim little figure, and looked altogether good and honest and sweet. Still, I guess most young men would have given her sister ten glances where they gave her one. At all events, my young man did; for he looked at Dittie all the time, and hardly saw Nelly at all.

"There were not many places of amusement in those days, but such as they were, they seemed very brilliant to these country girls, who had never been in the city before. And you rarely see a cousin so polite as Cousin Tom—so ready to devote all his spare time to taking them to this place and that place, and hunting up shows and entertainments for them. They wrote home to their father how kind he had been; their letters were full of him; and in return 'papa' wrote and sent his regards, and Cousin Tom must surely come and spend his Thanksgiving with them in New Hampshire. You may be sure Cousin Tom was ready enough to accept the invitation, for he had never seen girls so pretty or so nice before; and by this time had quite made up his mind to fall in love with his cousin Edith.

"It was all arranged. The young ladies went home late in October, and the day before Thanksgiving, if nothing prevented, Tom was to prevent himself in——, the place they lived at in New Hampshire."

"What place was it, grandpa?" persisted Jack.

"Suppose we call it Westfield," replied grandpa, with a twinkle. "As it happened, this young clerk's employer had some business to be transacted in the town of Elgin—only twelve miles from Westfield—and as Tom was going so near, he decided to entrust it to him, only, unluckily happened, this business must be attended to the Monday before Thanksgiving.

"But never mind that," said the head of the firm. "I'll give you a fortnight's leave, and you had better be off next Thursday; that will bring you to Elgin on Saturday night. You can do the business Monday, and be free to go to your friends by Monday evening. Then you need not report yourself here till next Thursday week. How will that answer?"

"It answered wonderfully well except for one little thing, and that was, Tom did not like the idea of presenting himself at a stranger's house two days before he was expected. However, there was no time to write. Mails travelled rarely to that part of the country. "There'll be a tavern or something," Tom said to himself. "I'll go there and see how the land lies before I make my appearance."

"So in the best of spirits he started for his forty-eight hours of staging. Ah, boys, you may talk as much as you like of the advantages of steam, but there was never anything equal to those old-fashioned stage rides, when, as in Tom's case, it was the height of Indian summer, and the country all gold and misty, and the air soft and balmy, with just the little twang of last night's frost in it to give a zest. Four good horses and a seat on top! phew! you'll never see anything like it. Well, Tom had a grand time, got to Elgin safely, did his business Monday morning, and the same afternoon, just as the sun was setting, rolled into Westfield in a farmer's wagon which he had hired to bring him over.

"The wagon set him down in front of a blacksmith's shop, and drove off leaving him to shift for himself. Of course the first thing he asked for was the inn; but there was none, it appeared. He felt at a loss what to do, and seeing just then a pleasant-looking elderly man joggling past in a substantial gig, he concluded to stop him and make some inquiries.

"Can you tell me, Sir, if there is any place in this village where I can get a night's lodging?"

"The stranger took a look at him, and answered, yankee fashion, with another question.

"'You are a traveller, then?'

"Yes. I've come up from New York to spend a few days, and I find you're no tavern here.'

"'New York, eh? You don't happen to know a cousin of mine there named Tom Somers, do you?'

"'That is *my* name, sir.'

"'Ah!' said the old gentleman, with a laugh. 'I thought I couldn't be mistaken in your nose. It's as good as a family label all the world round. But what on earth do you want to find a tavern for?'

"Tom explained.

"'Nonsense,' said his cousin. 'Jump right in. You can't come too soon. The girls will be glad to see you. They couldn't say enough about you when they came home.'

"'If you are sure I shan't put you to any inconvenience?'

"'Inconvenience! not a bit. Jump right in, I say. We are country folks and don't put ourselves out for our friends. You must take us as you find us. Dittie was deep in some furbelow or other when I came off, but Nelly will see to you. Bless her little heart, *She's* never too busy to do any thing that's wanted, if it only makes somebody else comfortable.'

"So off they drove, and after half a mile, turned in at an open gate, and stopped in front of a large, low, comfortable homestead. The old gentleman sprang out like a boy, and opening the door began to call in a loud voice. 'Dittie—Nelly—girls!'

"This way, Tom. Here's the keeping-room, and there's a fire—or ought to be. Well, Dittie, what's the matter? Why don't you come and speak to your cousin Tom?'

"And Tom stood and stared, for the figure before him was very little like the exquisite fairy he had been dreaming about for a month back. Dittie was cuddled up in a corner of the hearth with a candle beside her, and her lap full of a blue silk petticoat, upon which she was sewing. Her pretty hair was all tucked out of the way, and looked rough and careless. Her dress was a sort of faded bed-gown, evidently put on in a hurry, and as she got up and shuffled unwillingly forward there could be no doubt that her slippers were down at the heel.

"Now, children, if there is one thing above another a woman cannot afford to be, it is *untidy*. No matter how beautiful she is, it spoils it all. Venus herself couldn't make an impression in an old bed gown with her hair rumpled and her collar awry. And as Tom stared at his lady-love—sullen and mortified, and in this unpromising guise—he felt his sentiment for her oozing out at the tips of his fingers; and what's worse, it never came back again. Remember that, girls!

"'We didn't expect you so soon,' was all Dittie could find to say in the confusion of the moment.

"'But we're very glad, Cousin Tom,' joined in another voice, and then he became conscious for the first time that Nelly had entered. She carried a candle in each hand, and when she had set them down and given Tom a welcome and found a chair for him and her father, she moved about the room, giving bright little housewifely touches here and there—poking the fire to a blaze, and making things look neat and cheerful. Her dress was only a common print, but it was fresh and spotless; her hair was glossy as satin; and the neat little collar and bow of ribbon made the simple garb as becoming as a richer material. All the time she was arranging the room she went on talking in a pleasant voice, asking questions about the journey, and diffusing that atmosphere of home and welcome which is so acceptable to a stranger.

"Dittie slipped away, but Tom forgot to miss her, he was so well entertained. By and by she came back in a smart gown with her hair curled; but somehow Tom couldn't think her as pretty as he used to. The vision of the shabby dressing-gown and rough locks was too recent to be forgotten.

"Well, a supper appeared, and a first-rate supper it was. Tom was glad to see it, for the journey had made him very hungry. Nelly poured the tea. It appeared she was housekeeper; and as she sat there looking sweet enough to sweeten the cups without sugar, Tom saw for the first time what a dear little face she had, and how honest and true her brown eyes were. Her teeth, too, were like pearls—she showed them when she laughed, and that was pretty often, for Dittie seemed sulky and silent, and she was anxious to make up for it; and have Cousin Tom feel at home.

"Next morning Dittie looked subdued and abstracted, with none of the lively ways she had worn in New York. Tom found afterward that her head was full of the blue silk gown which she had set her heart on finishing for Thanksgiving.

"Soon after breakfast she went away to work upon it, leaving Tom in Nelly's hands, which was inconvenient; for Nelly had all sorts of things to do that day—apples to pare and pumpkin to stew, and pies to bake, and I don't know what all.

"However, there was no help for it. She made a bright fire in the keeping-room and brought some books for Tom, and told him that she must leave him awhile, and if he got lonely he must come out in the kitchen, for there she must be. And of course Tom had no idea of sitting alone; so he soon came wandering after her, and spent almost the whole day there, helping and hindering; for, though he pared some apples and beat a great many eggs, I'm afraid his long legs and his conversation were a good deal in the way.

"However, Nelly didn't let him know it if they were. And it was so pleasant to watch her at work that he would have been sorry enough to have been ordered off. She was the quickest, most skillful little creature in all her ways, and yet so orderly and systematic. Whether whisking some dainty mixture with a big spoon, or weilding the rolling-pin, or touching the oven door with a white knuckle, to see if the heat was right, all she did seemed graceful and charming. Ah, I can tell you, children, a girl never looks half so well as when she is doing plain, useful work in the nicest and prettiest way. And when those pies came out of the oven," said grandpapa, smacking his lips, "you never saw the like." "They resembled snow-flakes fried to a rich brown, only they were a great deal better!"

"Not better than grandma's," broke in a chorus of indignant voices.

"Well," said grandpa, looking wickedly about, "grandma's pies, as it happens, are the only ones I ever saw which were exactly like Nelly's, and just as good."

The dear old lady blushed like a girl. "Now, Thomas," she said, "You musn't talk such nonsense to the children."

"Oh!" shrieked Jack, the irrepressible; "grandpapa's name is Thomas, ain't it? I guess——" But here somebody choked him off, and grandpapa went on, very fast:

"So all the pies were baked, and the loaves of bread, and the Thanksgiving cake, and the plum-pudding mixed and put over to 'half boil,' for it was a great business in those days to get puddings boiled, and by that time supper-time was nearly come. Dittie came down very good natured and talkative. She had finished her dress and quite recovered her temper; and Nelly, who was tired, looked a little pale, and sat quietly most of the evening.

"But there was no danger of Cousin Tom's making any further mistakes. Twenty-four hours had done the work of a month, and he had made up his mind, once for all, that the pale, weary face in the corner was the sweetest face in the world.

"Wednesday was almost as busy as Tuesday. There were the last touches to be given to the cooking, and the house to be brightened up, and the red apples to wipe and arrange with autumn leaves. Cousin Tom helped in everything; and when the afternoon came, and he found that a great many of the pies were to be carried about the neighborhood as gifts to poor people, who depended upon this yearly remembrance, he insisted on going along to carry the baske: and hold the umbrella, for it was snowing a little. I need not inform you that Nelly was the pie distributor. All the work—or most all—of the house fell upon her. Dittie found an excuse for avoiding everything that was troublesome or inconvenient, and on this occasion she wanted to baste some lace on the blue dress.

"Well, they had a splendid walk. I won't pretend to tell you all they talked about; but they came home very rosy and good humored and hungry for supper.

"Neither will I venture to describe the Thanksgiving dinner, or the good minister's sermon in the morning. There were not so many people to eat the dinner, and the sermon had seventeen heads to it; otherwise both of them were very much like those we had enjoyed today. Dittie wore the blue silk, and looked beautiful in it—as was only fair when it had cost her so much trouble. But to Tom's mind little Nelly, in her gray gown and scarlet ribbon, looked, when compared to her sister, like some gentle home bird by the side of a gay tropic songster, a thing to love and cherish and woo to live in your heart forever. So he felt that day—God bless her!—and so he feels now—and always will feel as long as he feels anything.

There was a little tremble in grandpa's voice as he concluded, and he blew his nose rather loudly.

"And did they get married!" asked little Nelly on his knee.

"To be sure, my pet. What would be the use of a love-story that ended in any other way? They were married after a while and lived in New York a good many years, and then, the old house at Westfield being left vacant, and sister Dittie gone to a home of her own, they bought it and went to live there. And they added to it and added to it, that their boys and girls might have room to be comfortable. And they are old people now, and live there still; and every year the sons and daughters, with their boys and girls, come back and keep Thanksgiving in the old home with the old folks. And that's the end of my story.

The aunts and uncles smiled at one another, and in excited chorus called out, "Grandpa, grandpa, tell us, ain't you Cousin Tom?"

Grandpapa only laughed. "I am afraid Nelly will scold if I tell," he said.

Little Nelly, grandmamma's namesake, looked up, with wonder in her blue eyes; but the older ones with the savory remembrance of grandma's tarts fresh in their minds, raised an enthusiastic cheer, and precipitated themselves upon her in a body, kissing the soft old hands and the dear withered face wherever an opening could be found.

"How pretty grandmamma must have been when she was young!" whispered Edith to Hal.

"H-u-m," answered Harry, diplomatically; "yes. Grandpa was a lucky man to secure good looks and good pie-crust all at once—wasn't he, Dittie?"

And Edith, grandma's pupil, whose genius for domestic affairs had made her rather famous among the cousinhood, blushed her prettiest.

"And now," said grandpapa, "come away children. My old wife has been smothered as long as is proper, I think. It is time for Blindman's-Buff."

Thanksgiving.

The Ragged Parliament.

The beggars of Peck-slip sat in council on Thanksgiving Day. They had flocked together from all parts of the East River docks, to enjoy the jubilee. It was held in Fulton market, around a fish-stand. Of course there was no buying or selling on that morning, for, except the ragmuffins themselves, nobody, not even a policeman, was there.

It was a congregation of rags and tags—a bazaar of shreds and patches. There was an occasional big overcoat with a small boy in it—like Saul's armor bejicketing David. There were shoes that contained what the ancient conundrum styled "fine opening for a young man." There were caps which, like the primeval universe of matter, were "without form and void." There were trouser-legs, bare-legs, and lame-legs. There were frowsy heads, drowsy heads, and (perhaps also) lousy heads. There were swaggering street-sweepers, vagabond boot-blacks, and gutter-raking hags. There were boys with stumps of cigars in their mouths, and girls with fragments of chignons on their heads. There were old folks with their rheumatics, cripples with their crutches, and little children with their sniffles. There were Saxons, Celts and Ethiops. In short, there was everybody who was nobody. And there is no farther use in trying to describe them, for a description of such beggars only beggars description.

At 11 o'clock a. m., by the Fulton Ferry time-piece, being the hour when the churches of the two cities were to hold their Thanksgiving services, Linky Tim, an aged alms-gatherer who got his living as other people gave it to him, clambered to the top of the fish-stand, and pounding with a crooked dog-wood stick, called the meeting to order, or rather to a more "admired disorder."

"All coves," cried he, "wot have got hats will now take 'em off, and give strict attention to the proceedins. [Confusion.] Sekettary read the call. [More confusion.] Less noise, I say; stop the bedlam in that corner; no rattlin of feet, do you hear?"

Finally the dog-wood stick conquered a peace; after which, Inky Pink, an intelligent newsboy who had just gone into bankruptcy with an unsold edition of the *Commercial Advertiser*, unfolded one of the copies, and read therefrom, in a high-keyed monotone, President Grant's Proclamation for a National Thanksgiving. The reading was followed with cheers for Grant.

Quiet being restored, Linky Tim rose again with his dog-wood prop, and leaning on it like Jacob on his staff, doubly cleared his pipes for utterance—first with a loud "hem" from his throat, (a memorial of bronchitis) and next with a "chog" from his nose (a reminiscence of the catarrh)—whereupon without a scrap or a note to indicate previous preparation, and in the midst of a smell that was ancient and fish-like, and not of the lamp, spoke in substance as follows:

"Fellow-citizens and gals: [great cheering, during which Linky Tim nodded his snow-clad head.] This is the day we celebrate. It is Thanksgivin' Day. You all know what thanksgivin' means; it means givin' thanks. [Applause.] Now this is to be a moral meetin. The rich [and the speaker paused a moment to dwell on the odious word] I say the rich [reattering it with addional emphasis] I repeat it, the rich are allays a grumblin' and complainin' and findin' fault, and the more they git the more they want, and there ain't anythin' that satisfies 'em, and they've got nothin' to be thankful for, and Thanksgivin' Day is a walopin big sham among them, and that's a fact. [Great and long-continued applause.] Now this meetin' is called in the interest of the public at large, or wicey wersy for the welfare of human society. [Cheers.] It is to show in letters of livin' light what poor folks have ter be thankful for when rich people ain't. The time has come when we are called upon to exert a moral influence on the upper classes of society. Such is the object and meanin' of this meetin'. Business is now in order. Gentlemen perceed with the speakin."

Linky Tim resumed his seat, and Seedy Simpson took the floor. This individual wore a thin frock-coat, buttoned in front. His well-formed elbows were conspicuous through aperatures in the cloth. His legs were pipe-like and fragile. His hat, which he set delicately on the stand, wore a remnant of crape apparently in honor of his own obsequies. He said:

"Mr. Chairman, ladies, and gentleman: In the 'appy days when I was at 'ome in the hould country, I was in the 'abit of reading by my fat:er's 'arth the well-known and 'ighly appreciated poem of the immortal Shakespeare hentitled 'Pity the sorrows of the poor hold man!' But, Sir, as Daniel O'Connell once remarked, 'Sweet are the uses of adversity,' I am now prepared to say, Sir, on this hoccasion Sir, 'Pity the sorrows of rich hold man!' [Great cheering.] For, Sir, 'appening to 'ave a tuppence by me a few mornings past, I purchased a copy of *The New York Sun*. [Voice 'You stole it.' Another voice, 'You can't read.' Great disturbance, during which Linky Tim came to the front, as if he were about to read the riot act, but contented himself with saying, 'You make me blush—you act like the Board of Aldermen' which remark awed the meeting into silence, and Seedy Sim pson proceeded. Well, Sir, as I was saying, I purchased a well-known morning journal, and perused in it a narrative—a touching narrative, Sir—an haffecting narrative of the death of an 'orse. It was Commodore Vanderbilt's 'orse Mounting Boy. That 'orse Sir, took the disease, and became a martyr to the heppyzootic. And that 'orse is mourned to-day by its howner as if the diseased hanimal had been to 'im his wife and child. So this day of 'appiness to hus comes as a day of sackcloth to 'im. Yes, Sir, the Commodore said he would not 'ave 'ad it hoccur for an 'undred thousand dollars. For, says he, or words to that effect, when a man loses an 'undred or so he can get it back, but when he loses an 'orse, there's no 'ope of that hanimal any more. 'Is jig his hup. Mr. Chairman I 'ave therefore one grround of thankfulness to-day, which the same is, I am a man who has not lost an 'undred thousand dollars of live money on a dead 'orse." [Applause.]

Seedy Simpson then lifted his widowed hat, and holding its rim as gently as if it were the vanished white hat of the late Mrs. Simpson, retired with the most gentlemanly deportment from the platform.

Fatty Lum then waddled forward, or, as he was sometimes called, Lazy Lum, since in his case, as in some others, the laziness was in proportion to the fatness. He had once served in an oyster-shop, and had afterward taken to fishing from Pier No. 7 for sharks. Occupying the space of two men, he could eat the rations of three. His effort to mount the rostrum set him to panting, half out of breath. Speaking from his heart (and also nose) he said:

"My dear boys, g'rills, and coves: As that slim chap at the Old Bowery says, 'I ain't no orator, as Brutis is,' I ain't long-winded. [Laughter.] When I was small, my parents warned me not to be seen, not heard. [Voice, 'Does your mother know you're out?'] Yes, and I take care to be always out—I mean out of work. [Laughter, chiefly by one person.] I can tell that smutty-faced chap who interrupts me, something wot he ain't always out of. [Voices, 'What?'] Why, out of jail. [Great laughter, which vanquished the disturber.] Now I'll relate what I am here to-day to be thankful for. It's just this, and listen to my song. I relish my wittles like a wise man; and that's a cause of gratitude in my humble bosom. [Applause, and cries of 'Go on.'] Now, just think of old Mr. Dispopsy, who comes down here into this market to see if he can git somethin' or other to put under his ribs to agree with him. But he can't do it. No, gentlemen, that old gent can't eat a piece 'o cheese without goin' to hell for it. [Cheers and laughter.] The Devil sticks his toastin' fork in him and holds him up afore the fire. [Merriment and a voice, 'Serves him right.'] That rich victim of wealth has got money enough to buy the Astor House, yet he can't hold a square meal inside of him. But look at me patting his waistband.] There ain't nothin' the matter with these works. I am thankful to-day for such sound underpinin'. And, gentleman, my sentiments is this: a poor man's innards is better than a rich man's stamps." [Great and prolonged applause.]

Dr. Lob, or otherwise Soft Crab Sammy, was the next speaker. He had once sold shell-fish but by loss of his customers during the colic season he had lapsed into honorable bankruptcy, and was now living on his debts. His remarks were expected to be in a commercial and financial strain, and he rose with the air of one who had philosophized much on the subject of tax-paying but had never reduced it to practice. Receiving from his auditors the applause which acknowledged true merit, he bent his placid head, rested his eyes on his shoes, which were not mates, and thus spoke:

"In coming forward to address this poor but respectful audience, I have the honor to observe that the eloquent gentlemen who have preceded me have neglected one important aspect of the subject. My experience in life leads me to speak from a property point of view. I have no property to speak of, and therefore I speak of it. Now in speaking of it I may illustrate it thus. For instance, this is a brimstone match. And this is a scrap of paper. Put this to this. What is the result? Ashes —nothing. Now let us go further. This match, we will say, is a conflagration; this paper, we will imagine, is Boston. What follows? Loss, ruin, desolation, misery. Thus, my friend, it is with the proud cities of this fair land. As the dog at the shambles eats his meat, so a fire in a great city devours its prey. [Profound silence, and attention suddenly broken by a voice, 'Why didn't they put out the fire?' and by another voice, 'Why didn't they put out the dog?'] Dear partners in misfortune, it is a satisfying thought that when the walls of Boston fell, and the insurance companies fell with them, the crash did not come to you and me. [Applause.] No, Mr. Chairman, speaking for myself as an individual, and, perhaps, I have seen better days—and I am thankful that I am fire-proof; no flame can singe me; I am a salamander safe; no burglar can break into me; I am without incumbrance; no sheriff can put his hands on me. Yes, Sir, on this day of Thanksgiving, I am grateful that my unsettered soul can mount up exultingly like the lark toward heaven's gate, and sing with the Hebrew bard,

'No fot of land do I possess,
No cottage in the wilderness.'"

[Great and continued cheering, the audience rising to their feet, while the speaker sat down, buried in his emotions.]

The Secretary, who had meanwhile been busy writing with a red chalk pencil on a sheet of brown wrapping paper, was asked by the Chairman if he was ready with a resolution expressing the general tense of the meeting, and if so, would he have the kindness to take that opportunity to read it to the intelligent audience.

Inky Pink then respectfully submitted the following draft:

Whereas, We, the people of the United States, in Fulton Market assembled, at fish stand No. 12, are heartily in favor of sustaining President Grant's proclamation of Thanksgiving; and,

Whereas, The country at large is so lamentably prosperous that the great masses of the people forget their obligations to that Being who is the author of their mercies; and,

Whereas, With the growing wealth of the community, there is more and more property to be taken care of, and also more and more anxiety and worriment among those who take care of it, resulting in a general lack of grateful thanks for its possession; and,

Whereas, The poorer classes owe it to their rich and less fortunate fellow-citizens to set an example of gratitude for what they have, rather than of complaint for what they have not; therefore,

Resolved, That we the beggars, in celebrating Thanksgiving Day, hereby express our profound thanks that we are as poor as Job's Turkey.

The resolutions were carried unanimously, amid great enthusiasm, after which the meeting dispersed.—*Tribune*.

St. Peter's at Geneva.

It is about the Cathedral of St. Peter, rather than about the Hotel de Ville, that the medieval history of Geneva groups itself. This church was consecrated with imposing solemnities by the Emperor Conrad in 1034, when, as will be seen, this little state was but a year old. An older Christian church and a pagan temple had stood upon the same spot. The interior of the cathedral to-day is very much as Calvin left it. The canopy of the pulpit from which he preached, and the chair in which he sat when others preached, the front seats with the names of the old pastors on them—and there seemed to have been a good many of them in those days—and the other seats bearing the names of the old Genevese families—all are there, holding the place with a sort of grim, Puritan tenacity. In the presence of the clean plainness of the nave and aisles it is not difficult to imagine one's self back in the time of the old reformer, when every citizen was forced to be a Christian according to the prevailing doctrine; when the day began at four o'clock in the morning, and everything, from the city gates to grocery accounts, was opened with prayer; when Servetus was burned alive for having an opinion of his own on the subject of the Trinity; when cards, dice, singing, dancing, frivolous words, loafing about bar-rooms, absence from church, were against the laws of God, and avenged by the laws of man; when even suicide was punished by confiscation of goods; and when, too, on the other hand, Geneva was the school and printing-press of Protestant Europe, the refuge of reformers, a theology mill, a centre of energy and activity in the making and disseminating of Bibles and martyrs that has probably never been equalled in the history of the world.

The statues and architectural ornaments of the outside, the paintings and beautiful stained glass windows of the inside of the cathedral were swept away by the reformers. There are yet occasional vestiges of the tombs of the old canons upon the flat stone flooring of the naive. In the seventeenth century the rulers of Geneva allowed two monuments to be erected, one to the memory of Agrippa d'Aubigne, and the other to that of the Duke of Rohan, both of whom took a leading part in the Reformation in France, and were also zealous protectors of the independence of Geneva. These two tombs, or cenotaphs, whichever they be, are alone in their melancholy glory. No Genevese has since received a like honor. The severity of Protestantism was opposed to such vanities. Calvin himself forbade that his grave should be marked by any monument; and it is by no means certain that the spot shown as his last resting-place in the cemetary of the *Plainpalais* is the correct one. The present classic facade of the cathedral, so out of keeping with the rest of the architecture, dates only from the eighteenth century. The building, inside or out, is not imposing; but, as I have in part said already, the history of Geneva for at least eight hundred years has revolved about that old pile. From it Calvin ruled the little state with a firmer hand than did any of his episcopal predecessors; and notwithstanding what may be said to the contrary, the effects of his ruling are still felt in Geneva. The cathedral has been the forum as well as the sanctuary of the city; for there, year after year, the citizens have assembled in a general council, elected their magistrates, and voted their laws.—*Ralph Keeler, in Harper's Magazine for November.*

☞The Greenbush Gazette is responsible for the following: A prominent citizen of this village went home a few nights since at a late hour, and gently tapped on the door. "Who is it?" inquired his better half. To which very proper inquiry the heartless man replied by asking, "Who do you expect at this hour of the night?"

Our Young Folks' Column.

THE TWINS.

BY T. BUCHANAN READ.

From a beautiful lake in the mountain
Two rivulets came down,
With a ruddle and flutter like ribbons of blue
By delicate breezes blown.

O'er beds of golden lustre
In the shallow of rock and tree,
They sang the same tunes with their silvery tongues,
And clapped their hands in glee.

O'er rocks with mosses mantled
They eddied and whirled like a waltzing pair,
Till hand in hand with laughter and leap
They mingled their misty hair.

O'er the self-same ledges,
Singing the self-same tune,
They passed from April to breezy May
Toward the fields of June.

They whirled and danced and dallied,
And through the weeds low slid,
Till under the same thick grass and flowers
Their future course was hid

I saw two beautiful children
Of one fair mother born,
Like two young clouds of golden hue
That smile on the breast of Morn.

The same in age and beauty,
The same in voice and size—
The same bright hair upon their heads,
The same blue in their eyes.

Singing the same song ever
In the self-same silvery tune,
They passed from April into May,
Toward the fields of June.

They whirled and danced and dallied,
Till under the same thick leaves and flowers
Their future course was hid.

—*In November Galaxy.*

A Gift.

During my service in the diocese, there sat, one winter night in her little cot amid the forest, a humble woman with a babe of four weeks nursing at her breast. Her husband, fatigued with the labor of the day, lay asleep upon the bed. A few branches of fir were burning in the fire-place, illuminating the maternal picture, between which and the hearth stood a big gray cat, glancing alternately at the fire and the woman, as if meditating which was the warmer and more secure for the night—the hearth with its fire, or the mother with her child. The door opened, and a boy, apparently about eight years of age, entered.

"How late you are, Granna-jerker," said the woman.

The boy made no reply, but breathed in his hands, and stamped upon the floor, for he was very cold.

"How is it with your papa and mamma?" asked the woman.

"They are very sick," was the reply.

"How is your sister?"

"She cries so; she cries all the time."

"Why didn't you come earlier? I have something to quiet her," said the woman, as she arose, placed the babe in the cradle, and approached the hearth; but exclaimed in disappointment, and cast a dark look upon the cat, which sneaked away, hiding itself under the bed, as if understanding the significance of the look. The fact was the woman had placed there before the fire a quart of milk in a little earthen cup; this she had saved for the tender babe of her sick neighbor, but the cat had drank it in the supposition, too presuming for a cat, that this luxury was intended for her only.

The woman stood awhile hesitating, for not a drop of milk remained in the cottage. But she hesitated not long. After some little further attention to her cradle and casting a look upon her sleeping husband, she took Grannas-jerker in hand, left the room, and started through the forest. The firs sighed beneath their burden of snow, frost crackled beneath their tread, and the wolf howled in the distance. After an hour's rapid walk, for it was one of three miles, with her little companion, she reached her neighbor's house. There, too, was a fire burning, for wood is always plenty in the forest. There, too, was a bed, but containing a sick man and woman. A thin female hand was extended from the bed to keep the cradle in motion, but the child who lay in it wailed most piteously.

The woman, entering, made her salutation to the sick couple, and approached the crying child, took it in her arms, put it to her breast, and it became instantly quiet. After having sat thus a good while, she replaced the baby in the cradle, and bent over it. It smiled in its sleep.

"Now rest, poor Anna Stina," she whispered to the sick woman. "If Providence permits, I'll come again early in the morning."

So saying she left. The firs sighed yet more deeply; yet louder was the crackle of the frost, and yet nearer sounded the howl of the wolf. But the woman pursued her path steadily and quietly, her look directed toward the four stars of Charles's Wain, which seemed to her shining more clearly than before. At last she reached her darling cot, and found all within as silent and peaceful as when she left it.

"Many have given much, but who has given more than the poor woman whose home was in the forest cot?"

Tom's Dilemma.

BY K. E. C

Hic—"I b'lieve the sun shines with a blue light this—hic—morning—and I—hic—won't go. Here Tom, you saddle—hic—Selim, and ride over to Mr.—hic—Sawyer's, and settle this note. Here's the money; the interest is—hic—five dollars. I expect the old man will be so drunk, he will tell you its —hic—six. If he asks you to drink, Tom—hic—don't insult him with your stupid temperance notions."

Tom was soon galloping over the prairie. There was quite a contest going on in his mind. He was a boy of thirteen: he believed in filial obedience, but he did not believe in drinking. "I'd like to obey father, but I am resolved to touch, taste and handle not," he said aloud. "Trot along, Selim, a little faster."

Mr. Sawyer was sitting in the shade of a pleasant locust grove. He had just enough of "spirits" about him to feel that he was monarch of things in general, and of himself in particular. Tom's business, with some tests of patience, was at length dispatched, and the expected invitation came.

"Now, Tom, come and drink a glass with your father's friend, for the sake of old acquaintance. Here's to your health and future prosperity."

"Thank you, Mr. Sawyer, I don't like liquor; I won't drink."

"Humph! boy, you don't intend to say that you know more'n me?"

"No, sir; but I'll stick to temperance. It's blessed, and drunkenness is cursed."

"Pon my word, you'd better turn lecturer, you impudent young scamp. You ought to be sent to the Reform School, first. Here, saucebox, take this bottle of old Bourbon to your father; he won't insult it." In an excited way he put the bottle into Tom's pocket. "Tell your father you settled the business to my satisfaction, but I have a poor opinion of your manners."

Tom was quickly off, but the bottle became heavier with each mile. He knew it would make his father beastly drunk, and that would be a sin, and not to give it to him would be a sin on his part. How to give it to him in such a way that no evil would result, now became the question.

He rode along whistling a sober air. At length, on the still prairie came a boyish shout; "I have it! G'long Selim!" and the sober air changed to a merry laugh.

"Here we are at home, and, Selim, you shall have a good supper of hay and oats. No chance of father's taking a 'drunk' out of that bottle. The family were at tea when Tom entered, but with a manly tone he said: "Here, father, is a bottle of old Bourbon Mr. Sawyer sent to you. As I heard you say, yesterday, you wanted some strong camphor for your rheumatism, as I came through town I purchased some gum and put into it. I knew you could not go to town this week, and I thought it might do you good to have the camphor."

Tom's father looked as if he would rather have had the Bourbon without the gum. But he had sense enough left to say: "Carried your temperance ideas into practice, Tom? Well, stick to them, Tom, and you'll never loose yourself, or give me a chance to be ashamed of you. I'm proud of you, Tom. Eat your supper now."

—*Interior.*

☞A Cockney tourist met with a Scotch lassie going barefoot toward Glasgow. "Lassie," said he, "I should like to know if all the people in this part go barefooted?" "Part o' 'em do, and the rest o' 'em mind their own business," was the rather settling reply.

☞There is a young lady in Woodstock whose Christian name was suggested by an exclamation of her grandmother, who, after adjusting her spectacles to view for the first time the features of the new-born baby, exclaimed: "I declare." The child was christened "Ida Clair."

☞"Master at home?"
"No, sir; he's out."
"Mistress at home?"
"No, sir; she's out."
"Then I'll step in and wait by the fire."
"That's out